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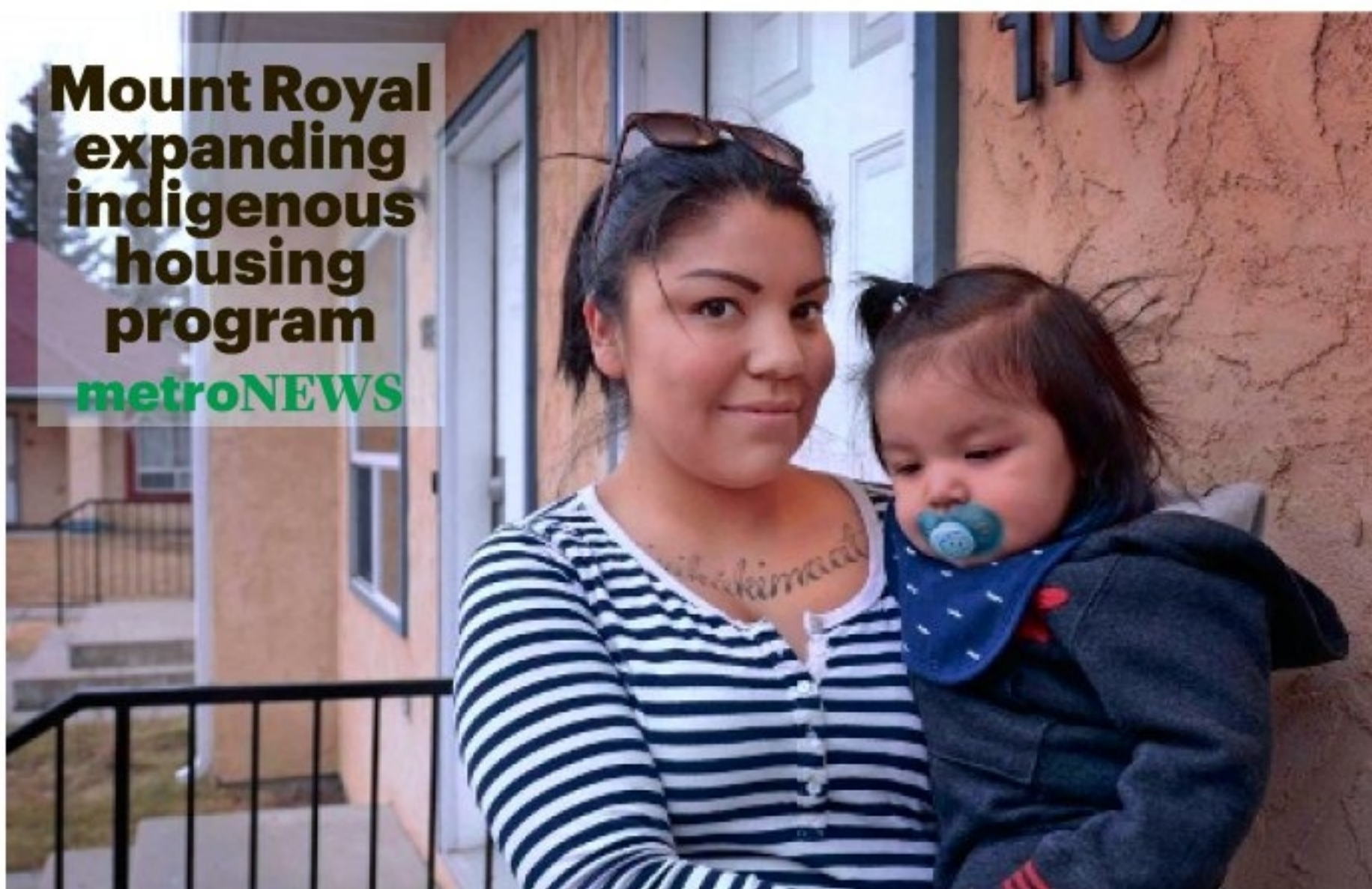


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**Mount Royal
expanding
indigenous
housing
program**
metroNEWS



Latasha Calf Robe and her two children live in Mount Royal University residence. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

ROOM FOR MORE

Reviving fluoride complex

HEALTH

**Equipment
would mostly
need replacing**



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

If city council wants to reintroduce fluoride in the water, it isn't as simple as just turning on a tap.

John Jagorinec, manager of water treatment for the city, said most of the fluoridation equipment was due to be replaced when council decided to pull the plug on the program in 2011.

"We've got part of our system still in place, but the majority of it reached the end of its life-cycle, and it was torn out about

five years ago," he said.

The department had just begun researching replacement options when council's directive came down, said Jagorinec.

He said if council — or the province or Alberta Health Services — were to give word that they wanted fluoride back, his staff would make it happen but it could take time. He couldn't estimate a timeline or cost.

Projects would have to go to tender, and regulations would have to be reviewed and amended. "It isn't just simply replacing the equipment. We need approval from Alberta Environment in our operating approval."

The city would also have to secure the fluoride on contract and Jagorinec said there were only a few suppliers in North America that meet quality guidelines.

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Bus routes getting overhaul after commuter complaints

TRANSIT

Calgary Transit to have consultations with riders



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Calgary Transit has decided to do an overhaul of the northwest routes with more consultation on the table to help strike a balance with riders.

Last year a set of changes to the northwest routes had communities up in arms as a few of them saw their go-to bus stop running in the evenings, and scaled back on weekend service. Transit has launched an effort to review service in the quadrant.

Neil McKendrick, manager of operational planning, said Calgary Transit had received a call from a gentleman who could take the bus to work in the morning, but had to hail a cab to get home — that's not a good story.

"If you reduce services you will affect people, regardless of how few people are riding the buses," McKendrick said. "It's not the direction we're trying to go with transit service, we're trying to make it more attractive by providing good



For more information on changes coming to northwest bus routes visit calgarytransit.com.

JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

opportunities to use bus and CTrain services."

Alicia Clifford was chosen by the Brentwood Community Association to attend the transit sessions.

She said although most of

the routes will offer more coverage, some key changes have her concerned about the senior residents in her area.

"They're getting rid of duplication of service, which I like. The service is being extended

on most routes to 11 p.m., so that's a bonus" Clifford said. "My biggest concern is going to be for some of the senior people living in Brentwood, Varsity, Dalhousie and those areas because ... it's more restrictive."



Perhaps there's a better way to provide service with less money or less hours

Neil McKendrick

The northwest bus routes are pretty mature but McKendrick said the areas have changed so much since the schedules were created, including LRT extensions, that the routes aren't as effective.

"Perhaps there's a better way to provide service with less money or less hours," McKendrick said.

"We sat down and looked at a lot of the routes ... there are a lot of roads in northwest Calgary that have two, three and four routes operating on them — so is that the best use of our transit hours?"

McKendrick said they have come up with route changes that will allow them to give more frequent service over a longer period of time with less hours and fewer routes.

Currently, Calgary Transit is using a similar engagement process as LRT consultations. Stakeholders are giving feedback to the city, and soon there will be open house sessions to further get residents using transit on board.

+ SENIORS

Residents in Parkview Village are calling on Transit officials to reconsider a bus route change that could cut many seniors' lifeline to grocery stores, train stations and society in general.

Joel Schulz said he's standing up for the 100 seniors living in the building as Calgary Transit plans to eliminate the 404 bus route as part of the northwest bus system changes.

"It's really a thorn in my side," said Schulz.

"I have more mobility than most people in this building ... this is something that could possibly affect me in the long term, in this building in particular there are people in their 80s ... they would never be able to walk the distance to be able to catch the 414 bus or the number 4 bus — it's just impossible for them."

Schulz is hoping to go to the community engagement sessions, but added the bus to get there doesn't run late enough to get residents back home after the meetings are complete.



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TRANSPORT

Investigation launched into fatal crash



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Alberta's Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) is investigating after a southwest Calgary crash left one dead early Thursday.

Emergency crews were called around 6:30 a.m. to 130 Ave and 37 St SW after reports of a collision between a pickup truck and small car.

When EMS arrived they assessed one person on scene and determined the driver of the car had died. The victim has been ID'd as a man in his 50s, but next of kin weren't yet notified.

Calgary police said a southbound truck driving in the northbound lanes of 37 St SW collided with a small car. Witnesses told police that three people in the truck left the scene.

The Calgary Police Canine Unit was called in to help locate the occupants of the truck and two people — a man and a woman — were taken into custody. A third person remains outstanding.

The woman in custody is in her mid-20s and was transported by paramedics to Foothills Hospital in stable and non-life threatening condition with soft tissue injuries.

The Calgary Police Service

has confirmed the truck involved in the crash was stolen out of Chestermere and may have been involved in an incident earlier on the Tsuu T'ina Nation.

A Tsuu T'ina police vehicle was also removed by tow truck from the area. It's believed this is related to ASIRT's involvement in the crash.

The Calgary Police Traffic Section continues to investigate the crash.



Jagdev Bual coaxed a mentally distressed woman off dangerous northeast LRT tracks. AARON CHATHA/METRO

Hero driver answers call

GOOD SAMARITAN

Quick thinking lauded after woman talked off LRT tracks

Jagdev Bual went to work Monday as a Calgary Transit operator just as he would any other day. But it turned out a little different, and, thanks to Bual's quick thinking a Calgary woman was brought to safety.

Bual said he was leaving the Saddletown station Monday around 8 a.m. when he saw a disoriented woman on the tracks with a train rapidly approaching. Luckily, Bual said the train operator honked the horn, prompting the woman to vacate the tracks.

A concerned Bual watched as she got up and began walking right down the tracks again.

"I got in my bus and drove up beside her and said 'what are you doing? You know this is not a safe place to be,'" he said. "She just kept saying 'OK, OK' and I could see she was mentally not stable at the time."

Bual said he then persuaded the woman onto the bus offering her a safe, warm place to sit.

"I took her with me for one complete circle of my trip," he said. "I could see she was not well."

Bual said a woman on board the bus who said she was a nurse sat and comforted the young woman. As the nurse left she told Bual it appeared the woman was suffering from some mental health challenges and didn't know where she was.

Bual called his control centre who then sent peace officers to collect the woman.

Ron Collins, Calgary Transit spokesman said Bual did the right thing given the circumstances.

"He saw somebody who appeared in danger on the tracks and he did the right thing in terms of coaxing her to come off the tracks and putting her out of harms way," he said.

But, Collins said this type of behaviour is typical of Calgary Transit operators.

"Our transit officers do a lot of things that are over and above the regular job of driving a bus or a train," he said.

"Going that extra mile to help people out is why many of them pride themselves in doing this kind of work."

LUCIE EDWARDSON/METRO CALGARY

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(Bual) saw somebody who appeared in danger... and he did the right thing. Ron Collins, Calgary Transit



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Four-year-old twins Isaak (left) and Isla both have completely different teeth. Issak's mouth is filled with cavities while his sister is issue-free according to their mother. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Fluoride may have helped son: Mom

HEALTH

Removal from water having a negative affect on kids: Study



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Twins Isaak and Isla McManus both have different smiles.

Isla's teeth are perfectly fine, while Isaak has had too many cavities to count. But both kids have the same brushing routine — two times per day.

On Tuesday, a University of Calgary study indicated the removal of fluoride has had a negative impact on children's health.

Isla and Isaak, both 4, have never taken a sip of the city's former fluoridated drinking water — they were born just

after the additive stopped flowing through people's taps.

But their mom, Lyn McManus, hopes the city re-adds fluoride to the city's drinking water.

She said doctors told her Isaak's decaying teeth could be due to lack of fluoride and his genetics.

"Maybe it could have been prevented," she said. "I mean, there's no direct proof it could've been because of that, but you never know, right?"

The study said tooth decay is the most common infectious disease in children, carrying consequences of pain, dental expenses and soreness that affects school productivity.

At one point, Isaak experienced an abscess — his tooth erupted due to an infection — while the family was waiting to get a referral to a paediatric dentist.

He was sent to the emergency room right away, McManus said.

"It's all cleared up now, so we don't have any issues," she said. "But his mouth was really sore and he was using oral gel to help with that."

The family also had an expensive dental bill that was covered by insurance, she said, adding the kids now swish and gargle with fluoride rinse, even though the packaging recommends it's for children aged six and up.

"We just don't want to pay any more money out of pocket," she said. "We can at least know they are getting enough fluoride now."

McManus said she understands some will say the non-fluoridated water has had no impact on her daughter's teeth.

"Some kids are more susceptible to cavities and luckily my daughter has healthy teeth," she said. "But maybe fluoride early on would have saved my sons teeth from being as bad as they were, since he would have been drinking fluoridated water from six months onward."

ECONOMY

Alberta EI recipients double

The number of Albertans receiving employment insurance has doubled in a year, Statistics Canada said Thursday in the latest sign of the province's economic struggles driven by falling oil prices.

About 62,500 people in the province were on EI in December, up from the 31,200 who were receiving jobless benefits

from the same month a year earlier, the federal agency said.

Alberta's growing EI numbers in December accounted for about 90 per cent of the 7.3 per cent increase nationally, pushing the total number of EI recipients to 539,800 across Canada.

While the EI numbers have climbed significantly in Alberta,

they still only account for 2.5 per cent of the labour force, below the national average of about 2.8 per cent, says University of Calgary economist Trevor Tombe.

"Things are getting worse in Alberta, but they were getting worse from a very good situation," said Tombe.

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Town buys park land for cheap

BANFF

Parks Canada sells land for much-needed housing



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Catherine Mackie said she's one of the lucky residents in the town of Banff because she was able to purchase a condo when she moved there, but for those who can't afford it, housing is tight — literally.

According to Sharon Oakley, housing sustainability coordinator for the town of Banff, the vacancy rate in Banff has been at zero per cent for a number of years.

"It's below zero, we just can't actually document what that looks like," she said. "What's happening in this town is over crowding, lots of couch surfing, exorbitant numbers of people sharing small spaces."



A rendering of the parcels of land being sold to the town by Parks Canada for the purpose of building below-market-rate housing. TOWN OF BANFF

Mackie, who's the manager of a retail store in Banff said housing is the number one staffing problem she encounters.

"I had an employee that lived in the hostel for two months, which is very expensive and loud," she said. "She was always exhausted

and stressed out because she shared a dorm room with three other people."

Mackie said she's seen numerous people living out of their cars or long-term squatting in green spaces as well as a "revolving door" of new tenants in her condo.

"The condos are all one bed-

room, one den and no more than 600 square feet," she said. "Many of the units have four to five people living in them."

Oakley said the town is in the midst of coming up with some kind of solution to the housing crisis in the town through a partnership with Parks Canada — two parcels

of land being sold to the town for 95 per cent below market rate to build below market rental properties.

"Because we're dictated in the town of Banff by a very small land ratio that we're allowed to build on due to being in the national park — our community is four

“

What's happening in this town is overcrowding, lots of couch surfing, exorbitant numbers of people sharing small spaces.

Sharon Oakley

square kilometers — land is very scarce and when we get it it's incredible to be able to find some we can actually build on," she said.

Oakley said once conditions of sale for the land are complete they will begin building on the parcel of land on Deer Lane.

"That is a package of eight lots," she said. "It's a fairly significant parcel of land with a higher density land use by-law zoning."

"So we're able to build apartments, town houses, stacked row houses — that sort of thing in there."

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Jack Foster has been composting for years, and said his neighbours all do the same. JENNIFER FRIESEN/METRO

Green bins not needed: Resident

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Backyard composter works just fine, he says



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

Jack Foster has been composting in his backyard since Ralph Klein was mayor.

He said the city gave him a backyard composter and he never looked back – in fact, he now has two composters.

Foster said because of this, he's not looking forward to the city's green bin program in 2017. More specifically, he doesn't want to pay the monthly fee for pickup.

"Whether you use the box or not once the city implements it, you're going to pay for it," said Foster. "And you're going to pay approximately \$7 a month."

It's the cost that really bothers him. He doesn't want to pay for a program he has no intentions of using.

Philippa Wagner, leader for green cart implementation, said Foster is correct when he says there will be no way to opt

out of the green bin program. The fees will be mandatory for all homes.

She said citizens will find, however, that green bins can take many items that a backyard composter cannot break down, such as meat scraps, bones, and processed food such as bread.

Pet owners will also be able to dispose of pet droppings, and even kitty litter.

Making it mandatory should also help with getting people to use the service, according to Wagner.



We have to take responsibility for our own actions.

Jack Foster

"There are communities (outside the city) that have an optional program. They don't see the uptake at all," she said.

Foster thinks greens and other backyard compostables still make up the vast majority of his waste. He's not sold on the bins.

"We have to take responsibility for our own actions. If we have to depend on the city for everything, the only way the city seems to solve these things is to add more taxes."

EDUCATION

No LGBTQ policy for Fort Vermilion schools

An Alberta school division has voted to defy the education minister and not submit a policy on transgender and other sexual minority students.

Dale Lederer, a trustee with the Fort Vermilion School Division, confirmed to The Canadian Press that the decision was made by the board at a meeting on Jan. 18.

"The board voted unanimously to leave the policy the way that it was, which they felt already protected all students,"

Lederer said Thursday.

Lederer declined to comment further and said board chairman Clark McAskile could provide more details. McAskile could not be immediately reached for comment.

A spokesman for Education Minister Dave Eggen said the department has not received official notification from the Vermilion division, but the minister is aware of the decision and has reached out to trustees.



The board voted ... to leave the policy the way that it was.

Dale Lederer

"We're following up with them for more information," said Jeremy Nolais.

"We're trying to finalize a meeting with them and the minister soon, probably in the

next two weeks."

Nolais said the department hasn't heard of any other school divisions declining to work with the province on policies that are due by March 31.

Eggen has a number of options to sanction school boards that do not follow government directives. One of them is to dissolve the boards. He has never said he would do so over the LGBTQ policy, but has added he always keeps his options open. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Police began missing persons investigation; man was in jail

POLICE

Conrad Babineau's family feared he was dead



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

A series of miscommunications led a family to fear the worst and for Calgary police to begin a missing person investigation — all while the individual was sitting in a city jail.

After Conrad Babineau left for work Monday morning, his family didn't know where he was for the next 36 hours.

And, although he had been picked up by Calgary Transit peace officers and taken to jail — CPS had begun a mis-

sing persons investigation.

Brandi Hunt said now that she knows where her husband was she's shocked there's no communication between law enforcement agencies.

"Once they put his name into the system shouldn't it tell them he's in jail," she said. "We thought he was dead."

According to Hunt, Babineau was pulled from the train Monday morning even though he had paid his fare.

She claims transit officers ran his name and saw an outstanding warrant for an unpaid motor vehicle fine and took him to the Remand Centre.

Calgary Transit declined to comment on the matter.

CPS confirmed they'd opened a missing person file

for Babineau and an investigation was underway.

They added that Calgary Transit has the authority to make an arrest without notifying them.

Hunt said the issue could have been resolved easily if law enforcement agencies had access to the same system.

According to a spokes-

person it nine times during his stay.

Hunt said although she doesn't believe her husband used the phone — and if he did he didn't call them — it wouldn't matter either way.

"That's besides the point, it never should have gone that far," she said.

"Police resources were totally wasted looking for him when he's literally sitting in their system. Not one of the 10 police officers I dealt with thought to check

Police resources were totally wasted looking for him when he's literally sitting in their system.

Name of person who said it

person for Alberta Justice, the jails have a central management system—but they aren't required to share the information with local law enforcement.

Alberta Justice said Babineau was assigned a PIN that enabled him access to the phone while he was incarcerated — and that he used

the jails."

Hunt said she hopes to see changes in the system so other families don't need to suffer the same anguish hers did.

"We were thinking worst-case scenario," she said. "We had family from all over Canada ready to fly in, we had ground searches going, it was a nightmare."



Conrad Babineau (left) was thought missing or dead for 36 hours by wife Brandi Hunt. CONTRIBUTED

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Free maintenance inspection by one of our Canadian Tire associates, Conventional Oil up to 5 Litre, New Oil filter up to \$5 included.

\$39⁹⁵

*Chemicals, Shop Supplies, Taxes + Environmental fees are extra. See store for more details. Some Conditions apply. This offer expires Feb 29th, 2016.

CANADA'S GARAGE



FLUID MAINTENANCE SERVICE

Contact your local store for more details.

For a limited time offer. Some conditions apply. This offer expires Feb 29th, 2016.



CANADA'S GARAGE

COUPON

ROAD READY OIL CHANGE

Free maintenance inspection by one of our Canadian Tire associates, Conventional Oil up to 5 Litre, New Oil filter up to \$5 included. Plus Tire rotation.

\$49⁹⁵

*Chemicals, Shop Supplies, Taxes + Environmental fees are extra. See store for more details. Some Conditions apply. This offer expires Feb 29th, 2016.

CANADA'S GARAGE



Macleod Trail 403.278.3800
McKenzie Towne 403.257.5914
Pacific Place 403.248.4166

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Dalhousie 403.288.1101
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Monthly price based on the sale price financed on a 12-month equal payments plan. Applicable sales tax not included. *See store for more details.





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Thursday, February 18 to
Wednesday, March 2, 2016

While quantities last. Sorry, no rain checks.
*See below for details.

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\$1896***
for the pair

SAMSUNG Pair
4.8 Cu. Ft. Washer
with Steam
MODEL WF42H5200AP
(1000792494) **ONLY \$948***
7.5 Cu. Ft. Dryer
with Steam
MODEL DV42H5200EP
(1000792482) **ONLY \$948***

SAMSUNG



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DEALS**
ON APPLIANCES
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OPTIONAL PEDESTALS
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**ONLY
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for the pair

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5.0 Cu. Ft. Washer MODEL WM3170CW
(1000821318) **ONLY \$848***
7.4 Cu. Ft. Dryer MODEL DLE3170W
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OPTIONAL PEDESTALS
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GE



**ONLY
\$1296***
for the pair

GE® Pair
4.9 Cu. Ft. Washer MODEL GTW460ASJWW
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SAMSUNG 21.6 Cu. Ft.
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with Icemaker
MODEL RF220NCTASR
(1000652736)



GE

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\$1698***

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33" Refrigerator
MODEL GSS23HSHSS
(1000827809)



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\$798***
reg. \$848

FRIGIDAIRE®
18 Cu. Ft. 30"
Refrigerator
MODEL FFTR1821QS
(1000810635)



GE

**SAVE \$330
\$1598***
reg. \$1928

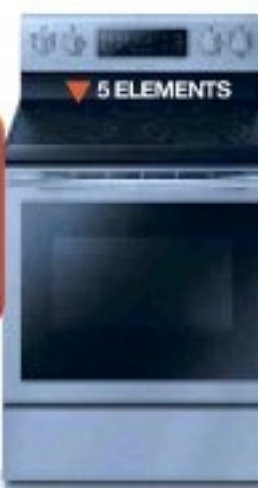
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Self-Clean Electric
Range with
True Convection
MODEL PCB980SFSS (1000788523)



SAMSUNG

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Self-Clean Electric
Range with
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MODEL NE59J7630SS (1000831237)



LG

**SAVE \$200
\$898***
reg. \$1098

LG Dishwasher
MODEL LDF7774ST
(1000807411)



MAYTAG

**ONLY
\$748***

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Dishwasher
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ONE WEEK ONLY

Thursday, February 18 to
Wednesday, February 24, 2016

10% OFF*

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For more appliance information or to shop
online visit homedepot.ca/appliances

Type in the product number

1000654204

SEARCH



FIND MORE at homedepot.ca

Prices valid Thursday, February 18 to Wednesday, March 2, 2016. *Offer valid at The Home Depot Canada. Not valid in combination with any other offer. Some exceptions may apply. Selection varies by store and quantities are limited. Offer valid to Canadian residents only. No substitutions or rain checks. See store associate or Special Services Desk for details or visit homedepot.ca. We reserve the right to limit quantities to the amount reasonable for homeowners and our regular contractor customers.

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The 10% off offer is valid on Special Orders, excluding Special Order Wire. This offer is not valid on GE Monogram® and Capital brand appliances, homedepot.ca transactions, The Home Depot® gift cards or certificates, Installation Services, delivery charges, warranties, any other discounts or prior purchases, and cannot be combined with any other offer, promotion, special incentive program or deferred financing credit offer.

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WHO'S GOT GAME?

We want to keep the CalgaryNEXT discussion going, and proposed funding of the project was a major hurdle for some Calgarians, according to a recent ThinkHQ /Metro Calgary poll. We've put together how the most recently constructed NHL arenas were financed.

COMPILED BY DARREN KRAUSE



CalgaryNEXT Project

Cost: \$890 million

Proposed funding:

\$250 million in ticket tax
\$240 million in a Community Revitalization Levy, \$200 million from the City of Calgary, \$200 million from the Calgary Flames. This proposed cost doesn't include funding for the remediation of the site where a former plant stood. That's been estimated at anywhere between \$50 million and \$300 million.

PHOTO: CALGARYNEXT.COM



Barclays Centre Brooklyn, New York - 2012

Cost: \$1 billion

Funding: \$510 million in tax-exempt public bonds, \$305 million in public subsidies (State and City), \$200 million in naming rights.

SOURCES: NYTIMES.COM, EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT CORP. PHOTO: ADAM E. MOREIRA - WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



Prudential Centre Newark, New Jersey - 2007

Cost: \$375 million

Funding: \$210 million from the city of Newark, but it was settlement money from a dispute with Newark International Airport. Additional public dollars were used to fund infrastructure improvements in the immediate area. \$100 million from the New Jersey Devils. SOURCES: ASSOCIATED PRESS, BERGEN RECORD. PHOTO: JIM HENDERSON - WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



Gila River Arena Phoenix, Arizona - 2003

Cost: \$220 million
(\$283 million in 2016)

Funding: \$180 million from the city of Glendale - \$30 million in bonds and \$150 million in excise tax, to be repaid through revenue generation. \$25 million from Jobing.com for 10-year naming rights. Additional \$15 million unclear.

SOURCE: HOCKEY.BALLPARKS.COM



Xcel Energy Centre St. Paul, Minnesota - 2000

Cost: \$170 million (Arena cost alone was roughly \$130 million)

Funding: \$65 million interest-free loan from the state (\$32 million was forgiven in 2013), \$72.7 million borrowed by the city of St. Paul.

SOURCES: MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE, ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS
PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



Rogers Place Edmonton - Opening fall 2016

Cost: \$480 million (arena)

Total project: \$606.5 million

Funding: \$279 from Community Revitalization Levy and other revenues \$125 million from ticket surcharge \$137.81 million from lease revenue \$23.68 million from Edmonton Arena Corporation, \$41 million from other government sources, and also MacEwan University. PHOTO: ROGERSPLACE.COM

SOURCE: WWW.EDMONTON.CA,



MTS Centre Winnipeg - 2004

Cost: \$133.5 million

(\$186 million in 2016)

Funding: All three levels of government. No private funding.

PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



Consol Energy Centre Pittsburgh - 2010

Cost: \$321 million

(\$353 million in 2016)

Funding: Penguins acquired a slots license and a group of casinos agreed to fund the arena's construction if they could build \$500 million casino on nearby property. A \$31 million overage was covered by the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Pennsylvania Sports and Exhibition Authority. SOURCE: USA TODAY

PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



American Airlines Centre Dallas, Texas - 2001

Cost: \$420 million

(\$561 million in 2016)

Funding: \$155 million public financing (primarily through car rental and hotel room tax). \$265 million (plus cost overruns) from NBA's Dallas Mavericks and NHL's Dallas Stars.

SOURCE: HOCKEY.BALLPARKS.COM,
PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



Nationwide Arena Columbus, Ohio - 2000

Cost: \$170 million

Funding: Total cost covered by Nationwide Insurance and Dispatch Publishing Group. In 2012, the Franklin County Facilities Authority and the City of Columbus purchased the building and are repaying a loan from Nationwide through casino tax revenue. PHOTO SHOT BY DEREK JENSEN (TYSTO), 2005-OCTOBER-05, WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



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Wildrose turn focus to equalization

Wildrose party leader **Brian Jean**. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

POLITICS

Opposition set up study group after Alberta gets \$2BN bill

The Wildrose party says it wants Albertans and all Canadians get a fair shake when it comes to equalization payments.

The Opposition party has set up a panel that will study the issue, gather feedback and will then table its report in the legislature this fall.

Wildrose Leader Brian Jean says Quebec will receive more than \$9 billion in equalization payments this year and Alberta will be paying \$2 billion while its economy suffers.

The current equalization agreement between the provinces and the federal govern-

ment expires in 2019. The panel will be chaired by University of Calgary economist Frank Atkins, who says the panel will be non-partisan.

The report is expected to be ready by mid-October.

The equalization program is designed to enable poorer provinces to offer government services at tax levels similar to richer jurisdictions.

It is based on a complex formula that assesses each

province's ability to raise its own money, and brings poorer provinces up to the national average.

"A thorough review of our country's current equalization formula, as well as a call for an independent set of recommendations on what Alberta should start talking about with our partners in the federation, is in everyone's best interest," Jean said in a news release.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRANSPORT

Derailment causes CP fresh headaches



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

CP is apologizing for creating an early-morning traffic snarl after a derailment in the southeast Calgary community of Inglewood that sent several cars off the tracks.

According to a Canadian Pacific (CP Rail) spokesman, a total of 14 cars derailed — one carrying vegetables and the rest empty — early Thursday morning. The incident occurred near the intersection of 15 Street and 19 Avenue SE.

"All of the cars but for one are empty, which makes rerailling a little bit easier," said Martin Cej with CP.

"But safety is the key here and we have to make sure we

reraill all of these cars as safely as possible."

The train also took down a nearby power line and EN-MAX crews worked to restore power to area residents. This isn't the first time the community of Inglewood has seen a derailment on the tracks that lead in and out of the nearby train yard.

According to past reports, that previous derailment was in 2013 when seven tank cars loaded with natural gas condensate flipped over during rush hour.

The report from that incident blamed the derailment on the wheel flange, which struck and climbed a switch point, falling between the switch and the rail. CP said it's unclear how long it will take to right the trains.



Emergency workers were on the scene after a train derailed near an Inglewood intersection. HELEN PIKE/METRO

POLICE

Man charged after over 80 distressed horses seized

Criminal charges have been laid in northern Alberta after the seizure of more than 80 horses and donkeys that were allegedly in distressed condition.

RCMP and the Alberta SPCA inspected a property in the Wandering River area on Feb. 3, based on a court order regarding three dead horses that had been found. Mounties say three carcasses were located along with 52 other horses

in poor condition, plus two horses and two donkeys that were being kept in corrals without adequate food and water.

Twenty other allegedly distressed horses were found on a second property.

Gary Herbert Sparshu, a 65-year-old Fort McMurray resident, has been arrested and will appear in Boyle provincial court on Feb. 23 on charges of causing injury to animals and breach of a court order.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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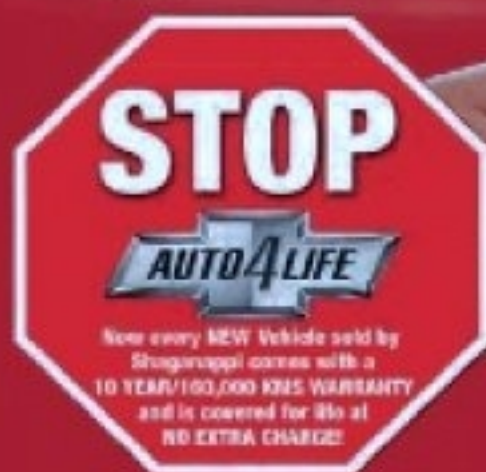


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#57007	2015 Chev 2500 HD Sierra Double Cab 4x4	WAS \$74,480	NOW \$56,888	SAVINGS \$17,592	#57513	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C SLE 4x4	Was \$56,590	NOW \$40,888	SAVINGS \$15,702
#55026	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado Double Cab 4x4	WAS \$68,745	NOW \$52,488	SAVINGS \$16,257	#55413	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$53,965	NOW \$38,888	SAVINGS \$15,077
#57042	2015 Chev 2500 Sierra Double Cab SLE 4x4	WAS \$58,365	NOW \$41,955	SAVINGS \$16,377	#55415	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$82,615	NOW \$65,488	SAVINGS \$17,127
#55085	2015 Chev 2500 HD Silverado C/C 4x4	WAS \$69,525	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$18,137	#55416	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$53,965	NOW \$38,888	SAVINGS \$15,077
#55095	2015 Chev 2500 HD Silverado C/C 4x4	WAS \$69,565	NOW \$51,888	SAVINGS \$17,677	#52023	2015 Corvette Stingray Coupe 3LT	Was \$87,470	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$2	SAVINGS \$14,038
#55093	2015 Chev 2500 HD Silverado C/C 4x4	WAS \$68,935	NOW \$51,888	SAVINGS \$17,047	#57515	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD SLE C/C 4x4	Was \$56,590	NOW \$40,888	SAVINGS \$15,702
#57221	2015 Chev 1500 Sierra Double Cab 4x4	WAS \$57,675	NOW \$44,488	SAVINGS \$13,187	#55411	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$54,900	NOW \$39,888	SAVINGS \$15,012
#57222	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra Double Cab 4x4	WAS \$57,675	NOW \$44,477	SAVINGS \$13,187	#55412	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$53,965	NOW \$38,888	SAVINGS \$15,077
#57226	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra Double Cab 4x4	WAS \$57,675	NOW \$44,488	SAVINGS \$13,187	#55418	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$53,965	NOW \$38,888	SAVINGS \$15,077
#57236	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra Double Cab 4x4	WAS \$57,675	NOW \$44,488	SAVINGS \$13,187	#55419	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$53,965	NOW \$38,888	SAVINGS \$15,077
#55177	2015 Chev 2500 HD Silverado Double Cab LZ 4x4	WAS \$66,140	NOW \$47,988	SAVINGS \$18,152	#55425	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4 Duramax	Was \$82,615	NOW \$65,488	SAVINGS \$17,127
#58022	2015 Chev City Express LS	WAS \$28,740	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$6,852	#55426	2015 Chev Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$82,615	NOW \$65,488	SAVINGS \$17,127
#58003	2015 Chev City Express LS	WAS \$28,255	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$6,367	#55427	2015 Chev 1500 Silverado High Country C/C 4x4	Was \$68,380	NOW \$54,488	SAVINGS \$13,892
#57311	2015 GMC 2500 HD Sierra C/C Denali 4x4	WAS \$75,870	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$16,982	#57519	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra C/C 4x4, Lifted, Wheel Pkg	Was \$82,825	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$11,937
#55215	2015 Chev 2500 HD Silverado C/C 4x4	WAS \$82,035	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$16,547	#55421	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$82,615	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$17,327
#57318	2015 GMC 2500 HD Sierra C/C Denali 4x4	WAS \$75,870	NOW \$58,888	SAVINGS \$16,982	#55428	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$82,615	NOW \$65,488	SAVINGS \$17,127
#57321	2015 GMC 2500 Sierra C/C Denali 4x4	WAS \$75,870	NOW \$58,888	SAVINGS \$16,982	#55436	2015 Chev 1500 Silverado DBL Lowered	Was \$62,056	NOW \$48,488	SAVINGS \$13,568
#57322	2015 GMC 2500 HD Sierra C/C Denali 4x4	WAS \$75,870	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$16,982	#52032	2015 Corvette Stingray Coupe 3LT	Was \$88,230	NOW \$74,172	SAVINGS \$14,058
#57328	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra C/C 4x4	WAS \$57,520	NOW \$44,388	SAVINGS \$13,132	#52036	2015 Corvette Stingray Coupe Z51, 3LT	Was \$85,120	NOW \$71,825	SAVINGS \$13,295
#57337	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra Double Cab 4x4	WAS \$57,520	NOW \$44,388	SAVINGS \$13,132	#52041	2015 Corvette Stingray Convert 3LT	Was \$87,490	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$40	SAVINGS \$13,800
#57291	2015 GMC 2500 HD Sierra C/C Denali 4x4	WAS \$75,870	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$16,982	#57534	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra 4x4	Was \$62,925	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$14,437
#57334	2015 GMC 2500 HD Sierra C/C Denali 4x4	WAS \$87,040	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$17,052	#52119	2015 Chev Camaro LT 2LT Coupe	Was \$40,440	NOW \$29,998	SAVINGS \$10,442
#55241	2015 GMC 2500 HE Sierra C/C 4x4	WAS \$81,980	NOW \$64,998	SAVINGS \$16,982	#55455	2015 Chev 1500 Silverado C/C 4x4	Was \$63,535	NOW \$49,488	SAVINGS \$14,047
#57333	2015 GMC 2500 HD Sierra C/C Denali 4x4	WAS \$87,040	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$17,052	#55459	2015 Chev 1500 Silverado C/C 4x4	Was \$63,535	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$14,047
#57290	2015 GMC 2500 HD Sierra C/C 4x4	WAS \$69,050	NOW \$51,888	SAVINGS \$17,162	#52488	2015 Chev Cruze 1LS	Was \$18,370	NOW \$11,998	SAVINGS \$6,382
#57369	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra C/C SLE 4x4	WAS \$54,955	NOW \$41,988	SAVINGS \$12,967	#57547	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra Base R/Cab	Was \$38,210	NOW \$30,998	SAVINGS \$7,212
#55293	2015 Chev 1500 Silverado C/C 4x4	WAS \$64,460	NOW \$49,888	SAVINGS \$14,575	#56530	2015 Chev Canyon SLE Crew Cab	Was \$40,490	NOW \$32,988	SAVINGS \$7,502
#52337	2015 Chev Cruze 4D 2LS Auto	WAS \$22,520	NOW \$15,988	SAVINGS \$6,532	#55732	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado L HD C/C 4x4	Was \$59,085	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$16,197
#58004	2015 Chev City Express LS	WAS \$29,410	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$6,922	#54942	2015 Chev 2500 Savana Cargo Van	Was \$39,335	NOW \$34,488	SAVINGS \$4,867
#55311	2015 Chev 1500 Silverado C/C 4x4	WAS \$63,085	NOW \$48,888	SAVINGS \$14,197	#54943	2015 Chev 2500 Savana Cargo Van	Was \$39,335	NOW \$34,488	SAVINGS \$4,867
#56508	2015 Chev Canyon Ext/C 4x4	WAS \$40,955	NOW \$35,888	SAVINGS \$5,067	#57557	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra Reg/C 4x4	Was \$36,910	NOW \$29,988	SAVINGS \$6,912
#56513	2015 Chev Canyon Ext/C 4x4	WAS \$40,955	NOW \$35,888	SAVINGS \$5,067	#56531	2015 Chev Canyon SLE Crew Cab	Was \$36,010	NOW \$29,998	SAVINGS \$6,012
#59738	2015 GMC Acadia AWD SL1	WAS \$53,470	NOW \$44,888	SAVINGS \$8,582	#59288	2015 Buick Verano	Was \$26,465	NOW \$20,488	SAVINGS \$5,977
#52400	2015 Chev Cruze 4D 1LT Turbo Auto	WAS \$24,205	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$7,017	#59289	2015 Buick Verano	Was \$26,085	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$6,087
#52392	2015 Chev Cruze 4D 1LT Turbo Auto	WAS \$24,205	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$7,017	#54945	2015 Chev 2500 Savana Cargo Van	Was \$39,335	NOW \$34,488	SAVINGS \$4,867
#54129	2015 Chev HD Express Cutaway	WAS \$54,771	NOW \$48,488	SAVINGS \$6,283	#59426	2015 Buick Encore AWD	Was \$34,110	NOW \$26,888	SAVINGS \$7,222
#55345	2015 Chev 1500 Silverado C/C 4x4	WAS \$62,380	NOW \$48,988	SAVINGS \$13,392	#59427	2015 Buick Encore AWD	Was \$32,340	NOW \$25,488	SAVINGS \$6,852
#52414	2015 Chev Cruze 4D 2LS	WAS \$21,070	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$6,382	#57577	2015 GMC 1500 Sierra DENALI C/C	Was \$73,110	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$15,122
#55352	2015 Chev 2500 HD Silverado C/C 4x4	WAS \$71,835	NOW \$55,488	SAVINGS \$16,347	#56397	2015 GMC Terrain SLE	Was \$35,915	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$7,027
#59252	2015 Verano	WAS \$26,465	NOW \$20,588	SAVINGS \$5,877	#54834	2015 Chev Trax LS	Was \$21,490	NOW \$16,688	SAVINGS \$4,802
#52415	2015 Chev Cruze 4D 1LS	WAS \$18,370	NOW \$11,998	SAVINGS \$6,372	#54835	2015 Chev Trax LS	Was \$21,490	NOW \$16,688	SAVINGS \$4,802
#52420	2015 Chev Cruze 4D 1LT Turbo Auto	WAS \$24,010	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$7,022	#56131	2015 Chev Equinox LS	Was \$28,765	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$6,377
#57482	2015 Chev 2500 HD Sierra C/C SLE 4x4	WAS \$72,385	NOW \$56,288	SAVINGS \$16,157	#56398	2015 GMC Terrain SLE2	Was \$33,689	NOW \$26,988	SAVINGS \$6,701
#55383	2015 Chev 1500 Silverado C/C 4x4	WAS \$68,000	NOW \$53,488	SAVINGS \$14,512	#52492	2015 Chev Cruze 1LS	Was \$18,170	NOW \$11,998	SAVINGS \$6,172
#55394	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C High Country Duramax 4x4	WAS \$83,755	NOW \$66,228	SAVINGS \$17,567	#52493	2015 Chev Cruze 1LT Turbo	Was \$23,910	NOW \$16,888	SAVINGS \$7,022
#59261	2015 Buick Verano	WAS \$26,605	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$6,117	#55747	2015 Chev 3500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	Was \$80,605	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$16,317
#55399	2015 Chev 1500 C/C High Country 4x4	WAS \$66,935	NOW \$53,588	SAVINGS \$13,347	#56674	2015 GMC Yukon XL DENALI	Was \$88,355	NOW \$77,488	SAVINGS \$10,867
#55401	2015 Chev 3500 Silverado HD C/C High Country 4x4	WAS \$83,960	NOW \$66,488	SAVINGS \$17,472	#55561	2015 Chev Tahoe LZ 4x4	Was \$74,635	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$10,747
#55403	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	WAS \$74,980	NOW \$58,488	SAVINGS \$16,492	#59337	2015 Buick Enclave 1SL AWD	Was \$57,830	NOW \$48,888	SAVINGS \$8,942
#55402	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD C/C 4x4	WAS \$59,300	NOW ~~SOLD~~ \$88	SAVINGS \$16,412	#55754	2015 Chev 2500 Silverado HD 4x4 C/C	Was \$81,480	NOW \$64,788	SAVINGS \$16,692
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Doubling up on indigenous housing

MOUNT ROYAL

University eyes extra funds to help families, single students



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Latasha Calf Robe explained to her three-year-old daughter that they will soon have to move out of the only home she's ever known.

Calf Robe is set to graduate in December, and has called the Aboriginal Housing program at Mount Royal University home for three years. It's where she's raised her two kids, one only nine months old, and she's trying to help her eldest understand it may be sad to leave, but another family will soon be able to make memories in that space.

MRU is meeting with the provincial government in hopes of renewing funding, and doubling their family Aboriginal Housing program. Currently there are 28 subsidized



Latasha Calf Robe relaxes with her children, Moby, nine months, and Taylee, 3, in the Mount Royal University residence that has been their home for three years. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

single-student spaces distributed throughout campus and four family spots in the program. The school is hoping with renovations and extra dollars into the program they can make 36 spaces available to single students and double their family

“This is about success for indigenous students.”

John Fischer

program to accept a total of eight families.

“It's a really great program, without it I wouldn't have been able to continue going to school, especially with having two small children,” Calf Robe said. “I'm really lucky to be a part of it,

it's really helped me through these past couple of years because everything is just across the road.”

Calf Robe is a part of the Kainai Nation, part of Treaty 7 territory in Southern Alberta. She grew up on the Reserve

and she's in her final year of the business administration program, with a double-minor in general management and indigenous studies.

“This is about success for indigenous students,” said John Fischer, director of the Iniskim Centre. “For many, the subsidy is meeting the need for students. It's no secret that indigenous students, if you speak generally, come from lower income levels and that's one of the largest barriers, if not the largest barrier to being able to attend university.”

He added once you tack on childcare and other facilities, living off-campus as a single parent is tough. Their program gives families the option to live together with the support of MRU throughout the year with academic support as well.

Fischer said the housing spots have been in high demand since the program's inception in 2007 — last year there was a 90-person wait-list for the single occupancy spaces. He added the school hopes to hear about funding when the provincial budget comes down. In the meantime, they're keeping eyes peeled for other funding opportunities.

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Ring road's impact on parks discussed

DEVELOPMENT

Clearwater and Weaselhead to be affected by construction



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

A city committee spoke about Weaselhead and Clearwater parks behind closed doors on Thursday.

Both parks will be impacted by the construction of the southwest ring road, although how much remains to be seen. The ring road is a provincial transportation project.

The city's Legacy Parks Fund Steering Committee had the matter on its agenda as an in camera matter. Councillors Metro contacted could not elaborate on why ring road



Weaselhead Park will have to give up some land to the southwest portion of the ring road, but proponents hope to mitigate the impact. COURTESY YVES DANSEREAU

impact on the parks is being discussed now.

Councillor Peter Demong did say the city is looking at making Clearwater Park an En-

max Legacy Park. Those parks are built or upgraded with the city's annual Enmax dividends.

Lisa Dahlseide, spokeswoman for the Weaselhead-

Glenmore Park Preservation Society, said they've worked closely with the provincial government and have convinced the province to alter some ring road plans to better protect wildlife in Weaselhead Park.

The province was originally planning to fill in a wetland on the park, but the society explained how the wetland filters much of the city's drinking water.

"They're still cutting into part of the park but the road will be right along that wetland," said Dahlseide.

She said the province often dismissed many of the committee's suggestions, but other times would say improvements could be made 'if the political will exists'.

"We can do better but we need the public to write in letters and talk to their MLA," said Dahlseide. "It's not built yet and we still have room to improve it."

EDUCATION

Schooling accord with First Nations

Alberta has signed a deal with a group of First Nations in the hope of improving attendance and high school graduation rates.

Under the agreement, the province will help the Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council make its curriculum more culturally relevant by including traditional skills such as hunting and fishing.

Alberta Education will also help the council to bolster literacy, math and science skills, including protecting the environment.

The agreement will affect about 1,000 students from kindergarten to Grade 12 from the Loon River, Lubicon Lake, Peerless Trout, Whitefish Lake and Woodland Cree First Nations in northern Alberta.

"We want to ensure students have the instructional supports that they need."

David Eggen

Attendance and high school graduation rates for First Nations students in Alberta are generally below the provincial average.

Education Minister David Eggen says the agreement, the first of its kind in the province, will serve as a framework for agreements with other First Nations.

"We want to ensure First Nations students have the instructional supports they need while receiving an education that reflects their rich culture and perspectives," Eggen said.

Robert Grey, grand chief of the tribal council, said the agreement will help give their children the education they need to build a successful future.

"This agreement speaks to our government's commitment to a renewed relationship with Indigenous communities throughout the province," said Richard Feehan, Minister of Indigenous Relations.

"We are proud of this partnership with the Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council to enhance the access and delivery of education." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TRANSPORTATION

Banff train not a Calgary concern: Councillor



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

One Calgary councillor says its great that Banff is floating the idea of passenger rail service to the tourist mecca — just don't ask Calgary to share in the cost.

Right now, Banff is seeking \$350,000 from the province to conduct a feasibility study on the idea.

Diana Waltmann, manager of communications for the town of Banff, said traffic has become a problem and the town's infrastructure isn't built for the millions of cars that pass through each year.

They've been looking for ways to mitigate the problem. "One of the factors is how people get here," she said. "Are there alternatives to where people get into the park?"

She said if the town did get the funding for a study, they

would look at look at risks and costs of creating a passenger rail service from Calgary to Banff.

She said the service would have to use existing CP Rail lines. People arriving by train would have no problem walking around the town," according to Waltmann.

"We want people to have a good time when they're here, not sit in traffic," she said.

Coun. Shane Keating said the idea absolutely should be

explored. But if it comes time to create it, he doesn't see the city putting any money into it.

"The thing is, it wouldn't affect Calgary a ton other than having an easier way to help people get to Banff," he said.

Keating is firmly focused on another rail project — the Green Line.

"We have way too many other transportation needs," he said. "That would be for different municipalities and different orders of government."

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Khan believes the above email racially profiled him based on his name. SCREENSHOT COURTESY WAHID KHAN, HIGHLIGHT ADDED BY METRO

Pet purchase turns racial

BUYER BEWARE

Wahid Khan
alleges racial
profiling, scam
buying puppy



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

When Wahid Khan set out to fulfill a childhood dream of owning a puppy, he never thought the process would end in racial profiling and a possible scam.

After Khan attempted to purchase a puppy through an online seller, he was put in touch with a transport company going by World Care Pet Trans, and was quoted \$300 for their services.

When the price increased by a few hundred dollars, Khan expressed concern about being able to afford it — and the company sent him an email back that he believes took aim at his racial background, making an assumption based off his name.

"We have been doing this for many years, maybe in your country they treat pets anyhow, but here in Canada it's differ-

ent," read the email, acquired by Metro.

Khan is born and raised in Canada. Khan said they also addressed him by his middle name, Hussein, instead of his last name, which was featured prominently in his emails and email address.

After doing some further digging on the company, it became apparent that the email might have been a scam account impersonating a company called World Care Pet Transport.

"There are cyber-criminals that claim to represent us, and use our good name to fool people into wiring them money

for puppies that simply don't exist," said John Johnson, with World Care Pet Transport, who added the people who spoke with Khan absolutely are not affiliated with them.

Khan said the incident upset him, but has learned to come with such incidents.

"It's not the first time something like this has happened to me," he said. "It was just another Monday."

Going forward, Kahn said despite his frustrations, it's important to forgive.

"A wise man once said, the only thing you can combat racism with is love."

A wise man once said, the only thing you can combat racism with is love.

Wahid Khan

Battle for bigger salaries, smaller class sizes

EDUCATION

Both needed, but may not be achievable, says union prez



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

When contract negotiations begin in March, Local 38 president Frank Bruseker said teachers are going to have to choose between two very important needs: Smaller class sizes or an increase in salaries.

The Local 38 represents teachers in the Calgary Board of Education, and Bruseker said one of the biggest stresses of the job right now is an increased workload, which is directly tied to class sizes.

"There are those who would argue that class size doesn't make any difference in terms of instruction, I don't agree with that," he said. "A big chunk of the workload is class size and that's directly related to government funding."

He said class sizes within the CBE are higher across the board than what is recommended by an Alberta Commission on Learning report. More students means more report cards, more mark-



(Some) would argue that class size doesn't make any difference ... I don't agree with that.

Frank Bruseker

ing and more communication with parents.

On the flip side, teacher salary increases have been frozen for the past three years, and Bruseker said many teachers are worried about keeping up

with inflation.

"But the government might say, well, if we fund you guys and give you a bigger salary increase, we can't do anything about classroom conditions and those poor children will suffer,"

Bruseker said.

At the end of 2015 the provincial government introduced a two-tier bargaining system. Where previously it was only individual school boards at the table with the teachers, now Alberta Education will have a seat as well.

In March, the parties will meet to first discuss which topics will be brought up at the bargaining table. The current teacher collective agreement expires Aug 31.



MJ and Stanley Hsu-Hung with their sons, Christopher and William. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

HEALTH

Donating made easy at breast milk bank



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

As the 11-month-old Hsu-Hung twins gurgle cheerfully in their parents' laps, it's hard to believe they were recently in the neonatal intensive care unit at Grey Nuns hospital, struggling to grow.

The pair were born six weeks early, and their mother — MJ — didn't have enough breast milk to feed them right away.

"It was rough. I just wished that I could give it to them," MJ said.

For MJ, that's where the NorthernStar Mothers Milk Bank came in. And on Thursday, it grew again.

The NorthernStar Bank, Canada's only community-based milk bank, opened its second Edmonton drop site Thursday at the Lois Hole Hospital for Women.

The first site, at the Grey Nuns Hospital, opened in 2012.

Mothers who qualify as donors can drop off milk, which is pasteurized before being distributed to the sickest babies first.

That original site was important for MJ. While formula was an alternative, breastfeeding was important to her and her husband, Stanley, she said.

Luckily, under an agreement with the NorthernStar Bank, her sons (William and Christopher) were fed with donated breast milk for their first five days of life.

"I was extremely grateful to the woman — to the stranger — who gave milk to my babies," she said.

Now MJ has moved from customer to depositor: Her milk eventually came in, and as soon as her twins started to wean off of it, she started pumping and storing extra milk to be distributed by the bank.

Janie Tyrell, AHS Executive Director for Women's Health, said the organization is excited to expand the program.

"Scientific research supports that babies who receive donor milk become stronger and more resilient, reducing their time in hospital and reducing their likelihood of illness as children and adults."

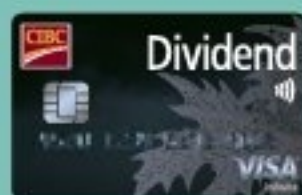
Started in Calgary about four years ago, the milk bank now has 11 drop sites across the prairie provinces and sends milk across Canada.

This year they estimate they'll dispense more 1,000 gallons of donor milk.

Executive Director Jannette Festival said Edmonton has shown a need for donor milk, so they're hoping to make it easier for local women to donate.

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The 26-hour improv challenge

SCENE YYC

Kinkonauts promise lots of fun — and lots of caffeine



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

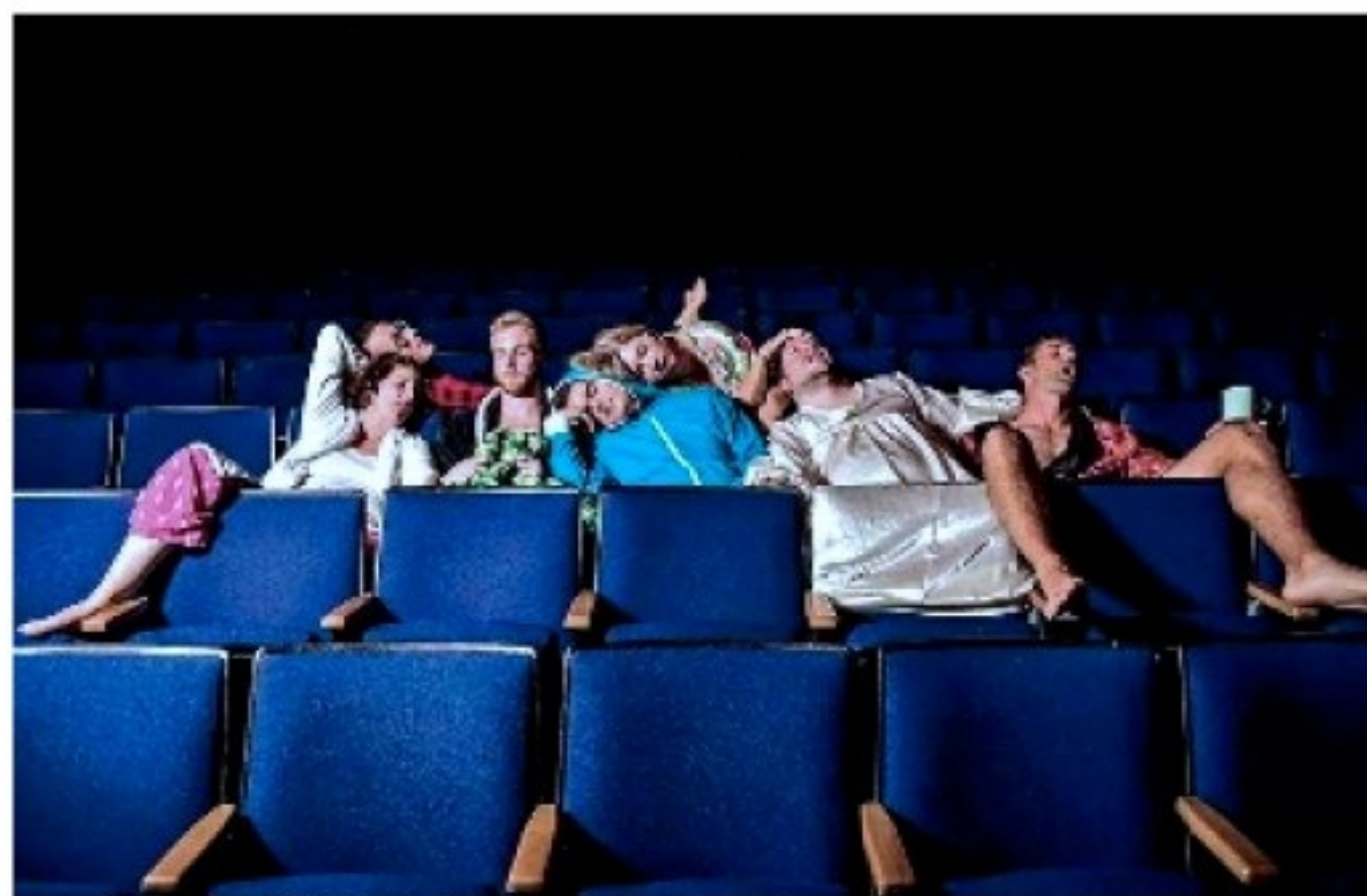
Covy Holland is doing all that he can to make it through a 26-hour improv show.

"I've been staying up every second day for the last month," he said. "And then now I've been adding some high risks to raise the stakes on that. At the end of my 'awake stage,' I'll go for a good drive."

"If I've made it back then, you know, then I'm staying on course. I guess I'm ready."

Holland is part of a local improv troupe known as The Kinkonauts, which, for the first time, is throwing a 26-hour show.

Though admission is free, improv-ers are accepting



The Kinkonauts will begin their performance at The Lab on Friday. CONTRIBUTED

donations to keep the group alive and well — The Kinkonauts have moved into a larger space.

Stephen Kent said he can't remember exactly where the idea to throw a 26-hour show stemmed from — it

"You never get to do improv at 8 a.m."
Stephen Kent

could have been at a board meeting or over pints at the local pub.

"I've always wanted to do an improv marathon — it's something that happens all over the world, really," Kent said. "I managed to convince

everyone to do this marathon."

Turns out the other improvisers were game when Kent brought up the idea.

"I think everyone was on board right away," Holland said. "I didn't sense any hesitation."

Kent said the marathon to them is like what Mt. Everest is for avid climbers.

"I think people within our theatre kind of jumped at the chance," he said. "It's like a chance to go on an adventure we'd never really gone on before."

And the group is prepared for whatever may come from the anticipated sleep deprivation.

"There may be some interesting moments," said Owen Chan, also part of the improv troupe.

"But doing 26 hours pushes you past your comfort zone, and I know for a fact it's going to spawn new stuff."

And just in case you can't stay awake, there will be an unlimited supply of caffeine from Rosso Coffee Roasters.

There will be a show every

+ SHOW TIME

The show starts on Friday at 8 p.m. and runs until Saturday at 10 p.m. at The Lab, 112 16 Ave NW.

hour, ranging from things like musicals, solo performances and debates.

Kent said he's most excited to perform the group's take on an '80s exercise show — it all begins with a sentence and some clothing.

"You never get to do improv at 8 a.m.," he said. "I'm just excited for the costumes, the pastels and Olivia Newton John get-ups we can all get in. It'd never be appropriate at a 10 p.m. show."

He hopes to make the 26-hour marathon a tradition.

"Who knows, maybe it's not 26 different shows but it's a 26-hour epic story, spoofing Shakespeare," he said.

"I think we envision this as a yearly event to fundraise and to keep building the Kinkonauts as a theatre and as a brand."

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All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metro

We're growing!



Matt Andersen's new album was inspired by the current political climate on both sides of the border. CONTRIBUTED

Honesty the best policy

SCENE YYC

Matt Andersen experiments but stays true on new album



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

New Brunswick bluesman Matt Andersen is slightly changing things up while maintaining his roots in his latest album, *Honest Man*.

Anderson worked with famed R&B producer Commissioner Gordon in New York. Gordon got Andersen to experiment with drum beats — something he says he'd never thought he'd go for.

Metro spoke to Andersen about Canada, Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders.

Tell me about the inspiration behind this album.

It's just life stories and things I've experienced. It's stuff that's been on my mind at the time. It's a pretty good representation of how I've been feeling for the last few months.

If you don't mind me asking, tell me about some of those personal experiences behind some of the songs. Yeah, sure. The song *Let's Get Back* is about Canadians trying to get back our identity. I think we lost our way a little

bit. We were always that peaceful country — everyone always counted on Canada. My friend, Randy — who lives in L.A. now — was seeing that from the outside. So there was some common ground there — we felt the same way about it.

Do you think we're on the right track?

I think so. I think it's something everyone wants. I think it's something you get caught up in — all the drama that's going on the world where you forget that sometimes.

Speaking of drama, your song *Honest Man* was derived from a political cartoon dealing with Donald Trump.

Yea, *Honest Man* came from an editorial cartoon of Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump holding a press conference. A microphone is going from Trump's mouth directly to the press while Bernie Sanders is being completely ignored. At that time, it was a big deal — Sanders wasn't getting attention ... anyway, it just shows nobody has time for an honest man.

+ DETAILS

Matt Andersen plays at the Jubilee on Monday at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$32.50. His new album *Honest Man* comes out on Friday.

YYC EVENTS

FRIDAY SeSol Dance and Project 001: Coming of Age

Performed by local dancers, the piece explores Jane Eyre's rebellious tone, calling into question many of society's major institutions. Just as in the novel, Project 001: Coming of Age asks the audience to consider a variety of contemporary social and political issues. Shows at 7:30 pm at the Big Secret Theatre in

Arts Commons. Tickets are \$15 (students and seniors) and \$20 for adults.

SATURDAY Coldest Night of the Year

It's a day for you to embrace the cold and get outside. The fundraising event consists of a 2km, 5km or 10km walk for a good cause. This year is the third anniversary of the event in Calgary, supporting The Roman Catholic Diocese of

Calgary (Feed the Hungry), KAIROS Calgary (Acadia Place) and The Mustard Seed. The walk begins at Eau Claire Market at 4 p.m. and goes until 8 p.m. Registration fee is \$25.

Winefest

Sip, sample and get input from wine experts, featuring wines from all over the world. It's a chance to try wine before you buy them. The event runs from 2 p.m.

to 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets start at \$75.

SUNDAY Glenbow community day

It's Free Community Day at the Glenbow Museum. Featured exhibitions include Embracing Canada: Landscapes from Krieghoff to the Group of Seven, and Paul Hardy's Kaleidoscopic Animalia. Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free. JEREMY SIMES/FOR METRO

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Comic expert Kyle Mori said although it's disappointing Calgary's only Marvel superheroes — **Shaman and Talisman** — aren't more popular, he's happy for any Calgarian representation. AARON CHATHA/METRO

Shaman and Talisman – Calgary's superheroes

MARVEL COMICS

Despite a team-up with Wolverine they remain obscure



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

With all the fervour around comic superhero Deadpool's origins in Regina, Sask., some local comic experts are reminded of a little-known Marvel superhero family from Calgary.

And by little-known, they mean super-little-known.

Fictional Calgarians Michael Twoyoungmen and his daughter Elizabeth become Shaman and Talisman to fight crime as part of Alpha Flight, Canada's superhero group. However, comic experts agree the team is pretty C-list among superhero groups. They aren't exactly the Avengers — Marvel hasn't published a new Alpha Flight comic since 2011.

According to Marvel.com, Talisman debuted with her superhero identity in 1985. One of her first adventures had her battling a mystical force that manifested itself through scrambled eggs. Michael Bower, owner of Phoenix Comics NW, said he remembers that Talisman fought with mystical powers and was of indigenous descent, although her powers were poorly explained in the comics.

"I don't think the writers of the comics ... really knew what to do with her, so she usually wasn't the focus of most Alpha Flight stories," he recalled.

Talisman was fluent in Sarcee and sometimes received her powers from a circlet. But with so few Canadian superheroes in the comic book world, Redd Skull Comics employee Kyle Mori is happy to see anyone from Canada represented.

"It sucks, but as far as the comic universe is concerned, everything takes place in New York, L.A. or other American cities," he said. "So I'm impressed when they make a character

+ CANADA'S BIGGEST SUPERHEROES

Through the years, a number of superheroes have been written with a Canadian origin — and gone on to become more popular than expected.

Deadpool: In the recent movie, Deadpool states he's from Regina, Sask. Fans are so excited that petitions have been started to erect a statue of Deadpool in the city.

Wolverine: Although his origins are usually shrouded in mystery, it seems the man named

Logan was born in Alberta, near Cold Lake or Edmonton.

Northstar: Born in Montreal, Northstar put his superhuman speed to use on Alpha Team. He made headlines around the world, however, for being Marvel's first openly gay character.

Guardian: Born in London, Ont., Guardian is a high-tech hero who originally founded Alpha Team on behalf of the Canadian government.

AARON CHATHA/METRO

from Canada, let alone from Calgary."

Mori said that Alpha Flight has made appearances with the X-Men and Wolverine even joined the group for a short time. In *Uncanny X-Men* #21, the X-Men battled Shaman and Alpha Flight

at the Calgary Stampede exhibition grounds.

Although Shaman and Talisman don't currently have their own comic book, Bower said not to count them out just yet.

"I doubt we'll be seeing an Alpha Flight movie any time soon."

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New app lets parents worry less about kids

CHILDCARE

Daycares can send real-time updates about child's routine



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

A new app is connecting Calgary parents with their daycares in real time — sending out updates for every nap, snack break and diaper change.

Developer Craig Pearce said their new app KidGenius will allow daycares to send real-time updates to parents, including photos, as to what their kids are doing during the day.

"I've got a daughter myself and it's like, two naps is great but one nap probably means an earlier bedtime," said Pearce.

The app will also provide parents with an end-of-day report, so parents can better understand how their child's day was and if there were any



Craig Pearce and Brandon Parsons developed KidGenius to allow parents to keep track of what their kids are up to during daycare. COURTESY CRAIG PEARCE

issues or patterns coming up in the app data that can help children.

Through the app, daycare operators can also request items — like extra diapers or a change of clothes — and tack on reminders, like if they're closed for a long weekend.

Pearce said a number of organizations are already looking to jump on board — especially as the app is designed to help them fill some of their requirements easier as well.

"For example, with Alberta,

childcare services have to report attendance," said Pearce.

The company started in Calgary with their previous service, DaycareIQ, which allowed parents to see childcare services in their area, whether they were licensed and what their wait-list looked like. Pearce said KidGenius is a natural extension of that service, and has launched nation-wide on iOS.

"We've gotten a lot more interest for this than we did for our previous product," he said. "Parents will love it."

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BUSINESS DANCING FOR DRAGONS Marie Sandoval, 11, performed an acrobatic dance for the Dragon's Den judges on Thursday morning at Mount Royal University. Sandoval joined Mandy Yip, owner of Acrobatic Arts, as she pitched her app and professional training program in the hopes of landing the funding she needs to franchise her business. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

POLICE

Woman found dead in local hotel

The Calgary Police Service is investigating the death of a woman found in the north-west.

At approximately 2 p.m., Thursday, police were called to check on the welfare of a female in the 4600 block of 16 Avenue NW.

The woman was found dead in a hotel room.

As is protocol in all undetermined death investigations, the Homicide Unit is investigating.

An autopsy hasn't yet been scheduled.

Further information isn't expected to be available until the autopsy is completed.

Stuart Brideaux, spokesman for EMS, said they responded initially to a call for "concern for medical well being of an individual," but passed the case to police when they found the woman was dead.

Anyone who may have been in the area at the time or has information is asked to contact police at 403-266-1234.

METRO

IN BRIEF

Bus crashes into southeast Calgary building

Emergency crews responded after a bus reportedly rammed into a building in the city's southeast Thursday evening.

Police said they responded to calls at 4:40 p.m., in the McKenzie Towne Square by McKenzie Towne Gate after reports

of a bus crashing into the building.

A duty inspector with CPS said there are a number of passengers on the bus suffering from minor injuries – nothing serious.

Calgary Transit has confirmed there was a crash, but no other details are known at this point.

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Syrian refugee plan gains slight support

RESETTLEMENT

Poll finds many Canadians still remain at odds over program



Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Support has grown slightly for Canada's plan to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees by March 1, but Canadians still remain at odds over the issue, results of a new poll show.

More than half of Canadians (52 per cent) support Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's plan to bring 25,000 Syrian refugees to this country by March 1, while 44 per cent oppose the plan, according to an Angus Reid Institute poll.

That's an increase of eight percentage points in support of the plan since the institute's last poll on the issue in November, conducted shortly after the

terrorist attacks in Paris, which found 54 per cent of Canadians opposed and 42 per cent in support of the plan.

Shachi Kurl, executive director of the Angus Reid Institute, said the increase in support might be due to the Liberal government's decision to push back the deadline from Jan. 1 to March 1.

"Canadians are still deeply divided on this issue," Kurl told Metro. "But what we can take away from this is ... really that extension of two months took

a lot of the heat off and certainly enabled a lot of people to change their thinking on the plan overall."

But the growth in support for refugee resettlement hasn't alleviated fears about the speed of the process.

According to the poll, 59 per cent say the deadline is too soon, while 37 per cent say it's about right. Only four per cent say things are moving too slowly. Those most in favour of the refugee resettlement plan are among those who feel the March 1 deadline is too ambitious.

"People are still concerned about the security aspect," said Kurl, adding that fewer than one-in-three respondents (31 per cent) say they feel the screening process is adequate, while 37 per cent believe it is inadequate and 32 per cent are unsure.

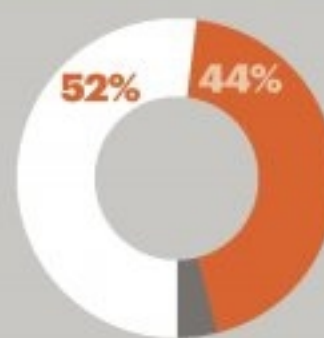
Regionally, support for the refugee plan is highest in British Columbia and Atlantic Canada, with 61 per cent in support and 60 per cent in support, respectively, and lowest in Alberta, with 41 per cent in support.

Coverage

The federal Liberals are ripping up a patchwork system of health-care coverage for newly arrived refugees and those seeking refugee status in favour of blanket coverage for all, beginning in April. Starting in 2017, they'll also extend coverage to certain refugees before they even arrive in Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

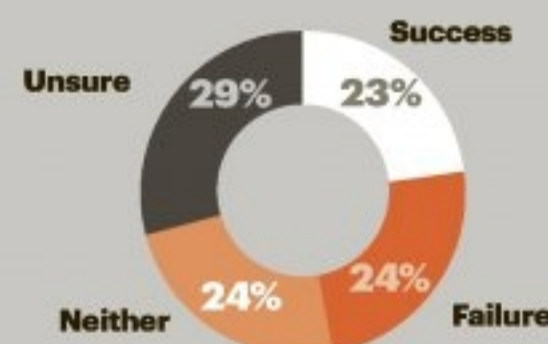
+ BY THE NUMBERS | Canadian refugee resettlement plan

1 Support of the government's plan



Just over half of Canadians support the government's plan, while 44% oppose it.

2 Outlook on the plan's legacy



Canadians are evenly divided on what the legacy of the resettlement program will be, with roughly the same number saying it will be viewed as a success, a failure, or neither 15 years from now (29% are unsure).

3 Regionally, Canadians remain divided about the plan, with support for it highest in British Columbia and Atlantic Canada, and lowest in Alberta.



British Columbia and Atlantic Canada

Alberta

4 Should we bring more refugees?



Roughly two-in-five (42%) say Canada should stop taking in Syrian refugees immediately. The rest either say the country should stop at 25,000 refugees (29%), or accept even more (29%).

ANDRES PLANA/METRO

HUMAN RIGHTS

Plight of Shoal Lake heads to world stage

Linda Redsky is packing her bags, leaving her isolated community and preparing to share the plight of Shoal Lake 40 on the world stage.

Shoal Lake, which lies on the Ontario-Manitoba border, provides the City of Winnipeg with clean drinking water, but has

been under a boil-water advisory itself for nearly two decades and is cut off from the mainland.

Redsky and possibly a second band member will join the Human Rights Watch at the United Nations in Geneva on Monday as the rights watchdog presents a report detailing its preliminary

findings on Shoal Lake 40 and three other Ontario reserves.

The presentation will be made to the UN committee on economic, social and cultural rights, which is reviewing Canada's track record on human rights.

Redsky, 55, has fallen through an ice road while trying to cross

into the community during the winter, and recently had to temporarily relocate off-reserve to Kenora, Ont., so her foster son could attend high school. She said she's seen the plight of her community get worse over the years "as I've watched the people continue to go across." METRO

IN BRIEF

Nunavik prisons reviewed

Quebec's ombudswoman released a report Thursday that paints an unflattering picture of the conditions faced by Inuit inmates in the province's north. Raymonde Saint-Germain found unusable sanitary facilities, soiled bedding and dirty cells. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bad news for economy

The OECD has cut its projections for global economic growth over the next two years and urged governments to respond to help strengthen demand. It claimed "the world economy is likely to expand no faster in 2016 than in 2015." THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Obama to talk human rights on Cuba trip

DIPLOMACY

Meeting with advocates a condition of historic visit

President Barack Obama said Thursday he'll raise human rights issues and other U.S. concerns with Cuban President Raul Castro during a history-making visit to the communist island nation.

The brief visit in mid-March will mark a watershed moment in relations between the U.S. and Cuba, making Obama the first sitting U.S. president to set foot on the island in nearly seven decades. While in the country, Obama plans to meet with groups advocating for change in Cuba, a condition the president had laid out publicly for such a trip.

Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Rodrigo Malmierca, on a visit to Washington, told The Associated Press that Obama's visit is good news for Cuba.

"The president will be welcomed," he said in Spanish.

The U.S. was estranged from the communist nation for over half a century until Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro moved toward rapprochement more than a year ago.

Since then, the nations have reopened embassies in Washington and Havana and have moved to restore commercial air travel, with a presidential visit seen as a key next step toward bridging the divide.

Ben Rhodes, Obama's deputy national security adviser, said the president will carry the message that the U.S. and Cuba need not be defined by their "complicated and difficult history." He said the U.S. wants to expand opportunities for U.S. businesses in Cuba, facilitate travel for Americans and coax Cuba's government into passing those benefits on to the public.

"Cuba will not change overnight," Rhodes wrote in a Medium blog post. But he said the guiding principle behind the visit is "taking steps that will improve the lives of the Cuban people."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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President Obama



1 Kainat Soomro sits in her home. She was 13 years old when three men kidnapped her, held her for several days and raped her.

2 Sidra Kamwal was the victim of a horrific acid attack.

3 When Azra was 18, her family sold her to an older man — now she fights for a divorce.

ALL PHOTOS: SHAKIL ADIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIDDLE EAST

Pakistani women seek justice

Kainat Soomro was 13 years old and on her way to buy a toy for her newborn niece when three men kidnapped her, held her for several days and repeatedly raped her.

Eight years later, she is still battling for justice. She sits on a steel-framed bed in her parents' three-bedroom home, and holds her blue shawl tight around her body. When she describes the horror of her captivity, her voice is barely a whisper, but it gains strength when she talks of the fight she has been waging: going to Pakistan's courts, holding protests, rejecting the rulings of the traditional Jirga council, taking on the powerful landlord and politician who she says are protecting her attackers.

The Associated Press does not usually identify victims of sexual abuse, but Kainat has



Each year a gamut of promises is made for the protection and development of women, but (they) remain unfulfilled. Excerpt from the Human Right Commission's 2014 report

gone public with her case. Her battle for justice has inspired an award-winning 2014 movie, Outlawed in Pakistan. Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani teenage Nobel Peace Prize winner who was shot by the Taliban, invited Kainat to the Nobel award ceremony, and her fund has given Kainat financial help.

Yet Kainat's family has paid a high price for her bravery. One sister remains unmarried and another was divorced because her in-laws were ashamed to be associated with Kainat.

In 2010, her brother was

killed over his sister's refusal to stay silent.

Clutching a gold-framed picture of his son, Ghulam Nabi Soomro spat out words of condemnation. "They know about our troubles thousands of miles away but here in the next street no one is helping us get justice," he said.

In Pakistan, women are often too fearful to report sexual violence, yet the independent Human Rights Commission of Pakistan recorded 423 rapes and 304 gang rapes last year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Crowd poses with beached baby dolphin until it dies

Wildlife groups are furious after a crowd on an Argentine beach passed around a young dolphin for selfies until it died from dehydration.

The baby La Plata dolphin — also known as a Franciscana dolphin and considered a vulnerable species — was found on Santa Teresita beach.

ANDREW FIFIELD/METRO



Tourists with the dolphin.

FACEBOOK.COM

Australian city in 'hairy panic' over tumbleweeds

There's a "hairy panic" in the rural city of Wangaratta, northeast of Victoria, Australia. What this "hairy panic" is referring to are fast-growing, out-of-control tumbleweeds that are overtaking properties, covering furniture and blocking entrance ways to homes and garages. Although residents say the tumbleweeds are a common nuisance, the unusually dry conditions have made them unbearable this year.

IRENE KUAN / FOR METRO



Tumbleweeds in front of a home. FACEBOOK

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Iraqis cheer as they arrive in Baghdad, holding so-called "yellow passports." KARIM KADIM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Back to Iraq for refugees

INTERNATIONAL EFFORT

More than 100 fly home to Baghdad from Finland

Emotional scenes unfolded at the Baghdad International Airport on Thursday as dozens of Iraqis who had sought refuge in Europe returned home.

More than a hundred Iraqis, mostly young men, landed in Baghdad on a flight from Finland. Some knelt, kissing the ground. Many were holding the so-called "yellow passport," travel documents issued by Iraqi embassies in Europe and elsewhere.

"It's too difficult to live there," said one of the women, Um Ealia, who declined to be identified by her full name fearing for her own security. "I've come back home. I feel happy."

I have good memories in Iraq," She was one of 103 people who returned to Iraq Thursday, according to Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Ahmed Jamal.

Over the past 12 months thousands of Iraqis are estimated to have returned home from Europe, citing lack of economic opportunity due to language barriers, cold weather and cultural differences as the reasons for going back after often harrowing journeys by sea and land that can take weeks.

The Geneva-based International Organization for Migration says it helped nearly 3,500 Iraqis return from Europe in 2015 alone. But the OIM says that is just a fraction of the total estimated number as many return by their own means.

In 2015, an estimated 70,000 Iraqis joined the tide of refugees and migrants making the thousands of miles long journey to Europe to escape war and poverty. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEX ASSAULT CHARGES

Cosby wants refund on hush settlement

Bill Cosby is demanding that the accuser in his criminal case repay a confidential sex-abuse settlement because she co-operated with police who reopened the case and arrested him last year.

Cosby, 78, filed a sealed breach-of-contract lawsuit this month that said the settlement barred Andrea Constand from "voluntarily" discussing the case with law enforcement.

The suit said Constand had no legal duty to co-operate with

Pennsylvania authorities because she lives in Canada. The interviews she and her mother gave to investigators last year were therefore "voluntary" and violated the settlement terms, the suit said.

"Despite being under no legal obligation to discuss any aspects of the events and allegations ... and despite being expressly prohibited from disclosing such information to anyone, Andrea Constand volunteered to participate and dis-

closed such information to the district attorney and others," Cosby's lawyers wrote in a re-dacted suit filed Thursday.

Cosby faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted of sexually assaulting Constand at his suburban Philadelphia home in 2004.

He has not yet entered a plea, but his lawyers have vowed to clear his name. Constand, 43, is now a massage therapist in Toronto.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Bill Cosby JAMES ROBINSON/PENNLIVE.COM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Business **metro**NEWS

Virus causes modest drag

ECONOMY

Zika threat hurting trade, tourism in Latin America

The spread of Zika will have a modest drag on economies in Latin America, with tourism-dependent Caribbean nations most at risk, the World Bank said Thursday. It made \$150 million immediately available to help fight the virus.

The World Health Organization has declared a global health emergency in response to the Zika outbreak and the U.S. is urging pregnant women to avoid travel to the

26 nations and territories in the Americas where Zika is present because researchers have identified possible links between the virus and rare birth defects.

But despite the scare, the World Bank says the impact from the epidemic is likely to be small.

In a report, it estimates lost revenue will total only \$3.6 billion, or about 0.6 per cent of the region's gross domestic product. That would come from reduced travel to the region and sick employees missing work, while anti-mosquito efforts will strain already tight national budgets.

The forecast assumes the regional and international response to the virus is swift

and well co-ordinated.

"Our analysis underscores the importance of urgent action to halt the spread of the Zika virus and to protect the health and well-being of people in the affected countries," Jim Yong Kim, president of the Washington-based World Bank, said in a statement.

While a number of countries have reported a rash of business conference and wedding cancellations, hotels were booked full and the mood as festive as ever during this month's Carnival celebration in Brazil, the epicentre of the epidemic. In Rio de Janeiro, average hotel occupancy was 86 per cent during the festivities, an increase of almost three percentage points over the previous year, according to the Brazilian Hoteliers' Association.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Our analysis underscores the importance of urgent action.
Jim Yong Kim, World Bank president

DIGITAL PRIVACY

Apple, U.S. clash over encryption

Battling in intense public broadsides, Apple Inc. and the government are making their cases before anyone steps into a courtroom over a judge's order forcing Apple to help the FBI hack into an iPhone in a terrorism case.

Is Apple adequately co-operating with federal agents investigating the deadly terrorist attack in San Bernardino, Calif.? It depends on who you ask. The White House is stressing it wants help to unlock only the work-issued iPhone used by Syed Farook, who along with his wife killed 14 people in December.

The FBI is "asking for something that would have an impact on this one device," said spokesman Josh Earnest.

But Apple CEO Tim Cook says bypassing the phone's encryption would threaten customer privacy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Mara Torres, eight months' pregnant, looks at a mosquito net placed over her bed Wednesday in Cali, Colombia. The spread of Zika will modestly affect Latin American economies, with tourism-dependent Caribbean nations most at risk, the World Bank says. LUIS ROBAYO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

STOCK OPTIONS

Abandon tax plan: Shopify CEO

The CEO of one of Canada's up-and-coming tech companies is calling on the federal government to abandon its plan to expand taxation of stock options, saying the move will make it more difficult for startup firms to attract talent.

Tobi Lutke said the Liberal proposal would have made it more difficult to launch his Ottawa-based company, Shopify.

"It would have been harder to build Shopify with the taxation being the way that it's proposed," he said in an interview.



Tobi Lutke, CEO of Shopify. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

During last year's federal election campaign, the Liberals promised to cap how much can be claimed through stock

option deductions.

Finance Minister Bill Morneau said he will soon release details about the commitment. The government is expected to release its first budget mid-March.

While Shopify continues to grow its revenues, Lutke said it will focus on taking advantage of opportunities to grow before posting profits late next year.

"We think Canada needs a tech company of the size that America produces and that's what we are aiming for," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Metro POLL

A smoking hot issue

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New research shows indoor smoking bans like the one introduced in Ireland in 2004 do help reduce illnesses caused by second-hand smoke, which kill 600,000 people per year worldwide. Gone are days of smoking sections and billboards advertising "smooth" cigarettes, but 18 per cent of Canadians still take a puff at least occasionally, and there's controversy as to where they should be allowed to do it — indoors, outdoors, in public, in cars or not at all. We asked readers if the right to clean air should take priority, or if the "smoke free" movement has gone so far that it threatens individual freedom.

1 Should smoking be banned in indoor public spaces?



2 What's your experience with second-hand smoke?



3 Where should smoking be banned?

- 30% Indoor public places
- 25% In cars if children are present
- 17% In private homes if children are present
- 14% Outdoor public places
- 8% Literally everywhere. And let's ban tobacco too
- 6% Other

Let's have places (and rules) where it is specifically allowed. Adults-only places.

It should be allowed everywhere except where there's a fire hazard.

If you live in a city, second-hand smoke doesn't hold a candle to all of the smog.

Ban smoking in apartment buildings where smoke can get into other units.

WE ASKED Metro readers

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

It was a relief to leave the gilded never-neverland of Saks

A trip to Saks Fifth Avenue, which unveiled its inaugural Canadian store in Toronto yesterday, begins long before you get there.

It begins standing naked in front of your thrift-store closet, fretting over an outfit. It's like dressing for a date with a wealthy man you may not like but are desperate to impress.

I opt for all black, a co-con dress over slim slacks, hoping the \$2 scarf around my neck has whiffs of 1970s Gucci, but I know I won't have the nerve to take my coat off under the bright lights of the three-floored jewel box. When I eventually glance at my reflection in one of the store's many mirrors and find eyeliner smudged down to my cheeks, it's proof to all those women flinging perfumed paper and macaroons at me that I'm an imposter. Then, a sleek-suited salesman for a French skin-care line uses my mirror and checks his teeth.

I am not the only interloper: Tourists with backpacks, an aging biker-gang-styled guy and an elderly couple pulling a wheeled shopping bag wander past small, \$150 bottles of perfume from a rare made-in-Japan brand, Celine's \$2,500 horseshoe-shaped leather handbags, diamond rings and Prada sunglasses and bouquets of blush-coloured peonies.

Some — amazingly — are here to shop: buying purses

that appear from backrooms in red velvet bags; opting, from among more than 1,000 styles of shoes, for the pink, red, and gold-studded Valentino stilettos for \$1,500.

At the Carolina Herrera and Oscar de la Renta boutique, I pause to finger an otherwise out-of-reach voluminous evening skirt: \$3,790.

Those with money to spend exclaim, "Absolutely gorgeous!" Important-looking people talk with TV-news crews, while an orchestral rendition of Somewhere Over the Rainbow, of all songs, floats between racks.

For me it's aspirational, but luxury shopping is a growing reality for some. Saks has plans for dozens more stores across the country and Nordstrom is also expanding north of the border, all while luxury-brand flagship stores pop up.

I typically steer clear of such spaces, not just because I can't afford what's inside, but to avoid feeling even schlubbier than I already do. So it was a relief to leave the gilded never-neverland, and step out into the sharp winter cold.

The Saks Fifth Avenue awnings dripped melted snow onto sidewalk crowds. People slipped into the subway or begged for change. I left without those \$775 Manolo Blahnik floral pumps, but I did stop by The Bay's repair shop to get my watch fixed, for \$22.60.

Why show mosquitoes mercy?



Genna Buck
Metro | Toronto

The Zika virus should be called the sneaky virus.

In near-silence it ambushed the better part of a continent, infecting more than a million people in less than two years, mostly in Brazil. The majority got mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. And then the babies started being born.

There's very strong, but not yet conclusive, evidence that Zika exposure in utero can cause microcephaly — infants with abnormally small heads and brains. It's devastating, and it often isn't diagnosed until birth. Thousands of babies are believed to be affected, though the uptick may be partly because of more diagnoses and possibly other causes, including other viruses.

Pope Francis has indicated he may be OK with contraception for women at risk of Zika. In ultra-Catholic Latin America. That's how high the level of fear and anguish is.

And it's all mosquitoes'

fault. *Aedes aegypti's* fault, specifically. That's the invasive African species that transmits Zika, dengue and yellow fever.

Not even humans can hold a candle to the jerk-itude of mosquitoes. No other species has come close to causing as much human suffering and death — skeeters sicken hundreds of millions and kill 725,000 people every year.

So why let them live? Why not global annihilation? A high ecological price might be warranted in exchange for a world with no Zika or other mosquito-borne diseases.

Someone brings this up seemingly every time there's a major mosquito-borne outbreak. This time it was Daniel Engber of Slate, who called for "full-scale mosquito-cide."

Eradication, whether of a virus, an insect or anything else, is a seductive public-health concept: It's simple, it's focused and it lends itself to goal-setting and international co-operation. And when it works, it saves not just the lives of people today, but billions of future people.

I want mosquito eradica-

tion to make sense, at least for *aegypti*, which isn't even native to the Americas. But there's no scientific consensus that it a) could be done, or that b) the environmental collateral damage would be worth it.

Problem A: Feasibility. You may have heard about a new high-tech, lethal anti-mosquito weapon: genetically modified male mosquitoes that mate with wild females and produce mosquito babies that can't survive. The UN supports this.

Though the technology is experimental, it's been shown to work: *Aegypti* has plummeted where such Frankenflies have been introduced. But large-scale use would "take mind-boggling resources and billions of dollars," University of Winnipeg biologist Robert Anderson told me.

The Frankenfly strategy would also have to be "militaristic," Anderson said. Homebody *aegypti* likes to cosy up to humans. It would rather roost indoors in a half-full water glass than a swamp. Modified mosquitoes would have to be released — continually released, remember, because

they kill themselves off — in and around homes. Logistical nightmare. Likely unpopular.

Problem B: Environmental impact. What would we miss in a biosphere without mosquitoes? Such science is speculative but the answer might be, "Eh, not that much."

Mosquitos go through drastic population fluctuations, so they're not usually an essential link in their local food webs. I asked Brock University ecologist Fiona Hunter about this, and she said *aegypti* can be erased from the Americas but other mosquitoes are still essential for biodiversity.

So where does that leave us in the Zika battle? Classic mosquito control: eliminating standing water and providing pesticides, repellent, bed nets, window screens and public education. It works OK. It's a pain, and it's expensive, and it means playing nice with our mortal enemy. But it seems the best weapon we have.

Genna Buck is a science writer and a section editor at Metro. Follow her on Twitter @genna_buck.

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From scripture to the big screen

GENRE

There is a right way to make a good Christian film

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



In 2006 Entertainment Weekly rated *The Passion of the Christ* — Mel Gibson's gritty and gory account of Jesus Christ's final 12 hours leading up to his crucifixion in Jerusalem — the most controversial movie of all time.

Its detractors noted historical and biblical inaccuracies and accused the film of being anti-Semitic and excessively violent. Despite the cries of critics, the film became the top-grossing Christian movie ever.

In fact, it was something of a miracle at the box office, earning \$611,899,420 worldwide in its original release.

Since then there has been a trickle of films aimed at a Christian audience, some successful, some not, some controversial, some not.

Passion had a great marketing strategy coupled with enough controversy to get people interested to see what all the fuss was about.

It's been hard to capture that kind of lightning in a bottle again, which is why we haven't seen a cavalcade of biblical epics in mainstream theatres.

This weekend *Risen* looks to the bible for inspiration. Play-

ing like an unofficial sequel to Gibson's film, it tells the tale of the Resurrection from the perspective of Clavius (Joseph Fiennes), a Roman Centurion commanded by Pontius Pilot to quell reports of a risen Messiah and thwart an insurrection in Jerusalem.

The film, directed by Waterworld helmer Kevin Reynolds, appears to have skirted around controversy by telling the story from the point of view of a fictional and non-believing character.

The studio is quick to note, however, that the script is a "faithful scriptural treatment of the story."

The secret to success for a Christian themed movie lies with the filmmaker's ability to translate the scripture to the screen.

Christians like a well told story," War Room director Alex Kendrick, who, with his brother Stephen have been labelled the "Steven Spielbergs of Christian cinema." His movie toppled *Straight Outta Compton* for the number one spot at the box office last year.

"What we don't like is when our saviour's name is abused or taken in vain or our morals trashed, so that keeps us away from many movies. It's amazing to me that if Hollywood knew how many movies we stayed away from on purpose because of some of the offensive aspects they would change because it means much more money for them."

Recently Noah, starring Russell Crowe as the arc-building prophet, angered some Christian groups for not being rev-



Risen, opening this weekend, tells the tale of a Roman Centurion tasked with quelling reports of a risen Messiah. CONTRIBUTED

erent enough. Director Darren Aronofsky called it the, "least biblical biblical film ever made," and a studio press release admitted, "artistic license has been taken."

The Christian community has met other films with open arms. Catherine Hardwicke's *The Nativity Story* drew on the gospel of Matthew for the story of the Immaculate Conception and while it wasn't

the box office bonanza that made *Passion* headline news, it made money and skirted around controversy.

In 2004 Christian films were popular enough to garner a category at the irreverent Mexican MTV Movie Awards. Up for Most Divine Miracle in a Movie was the water into wine sequence from *The Last Temptation of Christ*; *Passion*'s Christ healing Peter's injured ear

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Race	★★★
Risen	★★
The Witch	★★★★
Touched With Fire	★★★★

HOW RATING WORKS	
★★★★★	SEE IT
★★★★	WORTHWHILE
★★★	UP TO YOU
★	SKIP IT

scene; and the part in Bruce Almighty where Bruce causes his girlfriend's chest to grow sev-

eral sizes. Mexican audiences voted and Bruce Almighty's miracle took the prize.

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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN



Caesar salad is a lot like Girls. It's easy to mock, it's misunderstood, and sometimes it's controversial.

"I think Caesar salad is considered gauche in some circles," I said to Simon as I mashed up garlic and anchovy, right before we settled in with our dinner and a sneak peek of HBO's fifth season of *Girls*. "Maybe because of its over-exposure, like beet and goat cheese salad. It's also misunderstood because it's not even Italian."

"So you've told me," he said, "a hundred times."

"And it's controversial: were there anchovies in the original dressing? Probably not."

Simon sighed. "Oh my God, you know what?" I said, as lemon juice stung a hangnail. "Caesar salad is a lot like *Girls*. It's easy to mock, it's misunderstood, and sometimes it's controversial."

"And having an opinion about *Girls* is as irrelevant as having an opinion about Caesar salad," Simon said. "because everyone has got one."

Including me. I was a piece of solipsistic sh— in my early 20s, who nearly dropped out

THE SERIES:
Girls



THE MEAL:
Caesar salad



of grad school because what was the point? By day I sat on my deck reading Goethe and making collages in my journal using old National Geographic. By night I waited tables.

When Lena Dunham was 23, she wrote, directed and starred in a feature film, *Tiny Furniture*, that the New York Times compared to a John Cheever novel. She turned that twentysomething self-serving melancholy into art and two years later, in 2012, continued to mine it for *Girls*, the award-winning HBO comedy drama

that Dunham created and stars in as Hannah Horvath. For some reason, her work makes me want to take stock of who I am and where I'm going, with a force that few of her contemporaries can muster.

This latest season, which premieres Sunday night, begins with Marnie's country wedding. Does this matrimonial moment suggest that at least one of the four millennial cohorts has grown up? "We're thinking Laurel Canyon," Marnie explains to her make-up and hair stylist. "Let's do like a

Ralph Lauren and Joni Mitchell: artistic but also with a nod to my cultural heritage, which is white, Christian woman."

Maybe not.

But that's part of the show's appeal: everyone is aimless, undecided and not yet self-conscious about referencing, say, John Cassavetes as a creative influence.

The first four episodes showcase Dunham's talent for finding humour in both the sacred and profane, and exposes her body — to educate (bodies can be diverse, even on TV) and to use as a punchline, like Buster Keaton did. And the show continues to be a complicated mix of viscerally shocking laughs and subversive inversions of tired familiar tropes. Meanwhile, Ray, played perfectly by Alex Karpovsky, continues to function as the show's Greek chorus, articulating what the audience is thinking. "While she's painfully narcissistic, shockingly tone-deaf, and just generally one of the most insufferable people you'll ever meet," he says about Hannah, "she means something to me."

Me too.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

TV BRIEF

Brad Pitt may get his moment in the *Sons of Anarchy* prequel

Brad Pitt might take on a leading role in a *Sons of Anarchy* prequel, reports NME.

The creator of *Sons of Anarchy*, Kurt Sutter, has confirmed that he wants to make a prequel of the show about a California motorcycle club that ended in 2014. Sutter said that the prequel would start in the Vietnam War and would be a 10-12 episode series.

Sons of Anarchy star Charlie Hunnam played the character Jackson 'Jax' Teller in the original series. If the series takes off, Hunnam hinted in an interview with *Men's Journal* that Brad Pitt could be chosen to play his father John Teller. AFP



Brad Pitt. GETTY IMAGES

REALITY TV

'Big Ang' of Mob Wives has died

Angela "Big Ang" Raiola, the raspy-voiced bar owner who gained fame on the reality TV series *Mob Wives*, died early Thursday, nearly a year after being diagnosed with throat cancer. She was 55.

Raiola died at a New York City hospital while surrounded by friends and family, said series producer Jennifer Graziano.

A statement posted from Raiola's Twitter account said



Angela 'Big Ang' Raiola. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

she had "peacefully ended her battle with cancer."

"YOU (Her fans) were some of the most special people in her world, and she loved you immensely," said the statement. "Thank you for your love, prayers, and unconditional support of Angela right to the end."

Raiola was initially diagnosed in March 2015 with throat cancer that spread to

her brain and lung.

Even as she fought the disease, the native New Yorker remained the candid, colorful figure that viewers came to know on VH1's *Mob Wives* and her two sequels.

"You can call me Angela. I'll call you handsome," she told TV host Dr. Mehmet Oz during a pre-taped appearance that aired on his *Dr. Oz* show Feb. 16. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SERIES FINALE

Raiola will remain part of upcoming episodes of *Mob Wives*, which wrapped production in January, producer Graziano said.

The series finale airs March 9, with a reunion episode set for March 16.

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Black magic and 17th century feminism

HORROR

Robert Eggers cast a spell on critics with *The Witch*

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



Filmmaker Robert Eggers is winning awards and getting a lot of attention for crafting what's quite possibly Hollywood's very first feminist horror film featuring 17th Century New England pilgrims.

"I think it's just something about the zeitgeist and I'm lucky that witches are in the air," explained Eggers during an interview about *The Witch* and its accumulating acclaim.

"Two years ago, people might've just gone 'it's just some weird pilgrim horror movie, (screw) that.'"

Of course, *The Witch* isn't just a "weird pilgrim movie." In fact, the thought-provoking drama about one puritan family's brush with black

SUPERSTITION

The Real World Witch

"In the 17th Century, the real world and fairytale world were the exact same thing," said Eggers. "If you called someone a witch, you really believed this person was capable of doing all the horrific, primal things that the witch in my film does."

magic is a visually-striking authentication of the witch archetype and it's manifestation of "men's fears, desires, ambivalence, fantasies about women and female power" in the 17th Century.

But the film also "strangely (represented) women's fears, desires, ambivalences about motherhood in this extremely male-dominated society," added Eggers. "And the shadows of that still exist today."

A far cry from the popularized green-skinned caricature in a pointy hat from Broadway musical *Wicked* or even the Hollywood classic *The Wizard of Oz*, Eggers' witch dares to demonstrate that even though



Anya Taylor-Joy stars in the pilgrim horror movie *The Witch*, in theatres today. CONTRIBUTED

his film is set nearly 400 years ago in the forests of New England, it's still an important parallel to society's modern perceptions of women.

"I wasn't trying to go at this with any sort of social, polit-

ical, religious angle or agenda but when you read the primary source material, feminism is just bursting out all over the place," said Eggers. "I mean, as a collective cultural conscience, actually claiming female power

in a positive way is something we're still struggling with."

Underlining the drama with such subtext may have been the more manageable task for the Sundance Film Festival winner for Best Directing. In fact,



When you read the primary source material, feminism is just bursting out all over the place.

Director Robert Eggers

attempting to capture the 17th Century on celluloid seemed to be the more considerable challenge.

"Puritans were not into art so there's not a great painting tradition from the period," explained Eggers of the largely uncharted look and feel of the era. "But we feel confident, even if this isn't the most accurate version, certainly this is our best — given the most up-to-date research. I mean, we screened for colonial historians and they gave it a thumbs up."

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Mad Max Oscar onslaught stuns Miller

AWARDS SEASON

Apocalyptic action sequel nominated for 10 Oscars

Of the many roads to the Academy Awards, none is as unlikely as the one taken (at ferocious speed, with engines

roaring) by George Miller's *Mad Max: Fury Road*. Whatever one's concept of "Oscar bait" is, it does not include action-movie dystopias with face-painting kamikazes and blind, fire-shooting metal guitarists who answer to the name of "Doof."

Despite *Fury Road* being about as far away from the usual Oscar-friendly costumed drama, Miller's fireball of a

film heads into the Feb. 28 Academy Awards with 10 nods (second only to *The Revenant*), including best picture and best director for Miller. Nominated in every technical category, *Mad Max* stands a good chance of being the night's most-awarded film.

It's a gratifying if utterly unforeseen outcome for the 70-year-old Miller, who spent more than a decade trying to

get various iterations of a *Mad Max* sequel off the ground.

But when *Fury Road* was finally unveiled in May, the response was rapturous. Here was not the average, bloated summer sequel at all. Here was a blisteringly cinematic movie stuffed with allegorical meaning, with much to say about gender roles and power.

"I treat action movies very, very seriously," Miller says in

“There's a great quote from Hunter S. Thompson where he said that when something turned right for him unexpectedly, it was like falling down an elevator shaft into a pool of mermaids. It's been a little bit like that.”

Director George Miller



a recent interview between stops on the awards circuit. "It's not something like: Here's a movie with talkie bits and now some action. We were trying to conflate the two."

The multitude of Oscar nominations for *Fury Road* speaks to the widespread admiration for the movie's old-school craft. Though it includes extensive visual effects, *Fury Road* was shot with real vehicles on a real location. Miller is the rare action filmmaker who speaks of Buster Keaton and Harold Lloyd as inspirations.

"It finds its antecedents in those early films, those pre-sound movies where arguably the film language, this very new language we had, was forged," Miller says. "When I first came to cinema that's where I first went to with a pretty strong sense of inquiry as to: What is this new language? It's not much more than 100 years old and we can read it before we can read books."

The language of *Fury Road* — an essentially non-stop chase through a post-apocalyptic wasteland — is wildly kinetic. It's expressed almost entirely through imagery rather than dialogue. Tom Hardy, who inherited the role of Max from Mel Gibson, described Miller's movie as "if Obi-Wan Kenobi could make an action movie."

It's composed of approxi-

mately 2,900 shots. The average shot is 2 seconds and 9 frames. "Film is a mosaic art and this one had many pieces," Miller says.

The mammoth task of assembling so much footage from scenes sometimes shot with a dozen cameras fell to Miller's wife, editor Margaret Sixel. She, too, is up for an Oscar.

It's Sixel's first nod, but several of Miller's films have previously been Oscar nominated, including 1992's *Lorenzo's Oil*, 1995's *Babe* and 2006's *Happy Feet*.

For many, it's the film's story of female empowerment, led by Charlize Theron's one-armed warrior Furiosa, that's makes *Fury Road* exceptional. Some have called it a feminist action film.

"It was really, really gratifying when people did respond and saw all its resonances and really picked up on it," Miller says. "The attraction of something like *Mad Max: Fury Road* is basically allegorical. You're trying to find those things in the story that seem to be constant in humanity."

"I always thought that you really don't know what your film is until some time passes and it's reflected back at you by the audience," he says. "That process seems to be accelerated now. It's been surprising and gratifying."

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Tom Hardy as Max Rockatansky, in a scene from *Mad Max: Fury Road*. WARNER BROS. PICTURES VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

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Bollywood has Great Expectations



Aditya Roy Kapur plays Noor, based on Great Expectation's Pip, in the new Bollywood flick **Fitoor**. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

FILM ADAPTATIONS

Fitoor replaces London with Kashmir in this classic love tale

Bollywood may be (in)famous for its melodramatic romantic plots, but love was a new subject matter for director Abhishek Kapoor.

His previous two films, *Rock On* (2008) and *Kai Po Che* (2013), explored male friendships. His latest film, *Fitoor*, an adaptation of Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*, is his attempt to tell a story about deep and passionate love. *Fitoor*, which loosely translates to obsession, is now playing in India and theatres across the GTA.

Kapoor's adaptation switches out the marshes of Kent and genteel London for the valleys of Kashmir and the high society art scene of New Delhi. A young shikara (Kashmiri houseboat) boy, Noor, falls in love with Firdaus, who comes from a background of wealth and privilege.

Bollywood star Katrina Kaif, who is half Kashmiri and half British, plays the part of Firdaus

or Estelle. Often criticized for her inability to speak Hindi without an accent, Kaif brings an aloof beauty to the role. Pip, meanwhile, has been re-imagined as upcoming young artist Noor, played by Aditya Roy Kapur — with a ripped body, natch.

But the movie revolves around the machinations of Tabu (*Life of Pi*, *The Namesake*), who takes on the Miss Havisham character, previously played by Helena Bonham Carter, Gillian Anderson and Charlotte Rampling in English adaptations.



This film is about deep love and its repercussions: how it can make you or break you.

Abhishek Kapoor

Adapting British classics isn't new to Bollywood. Given India's colonial legacy, British texts are still a staple of high school and university studies, as well as amateur theatre productions.

But the success of these mov-

ies usually relies on their star power. The onscreen chemistry of stars Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone was credited for the critical and box-office success of the sumptuously shot *Romeo and Juliet* adaptation *Goliyon Ki Raasleela: Ram Leela* (2013).

Many Bollywood movies are already a riff on the *Romeo and Juliet* theme, without being an explicit adaptation. With *Fitoor*, Kapoor decided to adapt *Great Expectations* because of its "quintessential saga of love."

He had read the book growing up, seen TV versions and was struck by the intensity of Miss Havisham's character. *Fitoor* isn't a literal adaptation of Dickens' work but keeps true to its soul.

"We wanted to explore the characters more, who they are, what their backstories are, especially Miss Havisham," Kapoor, 44, said in a phone interview. "What is her mindset as a jilted lover . . . because in an Indian context, according to our social customs, the humiliation, the social stigma would have driven someone crazy."

"This film is about deep love and its repercussions: how it can make you or break you."

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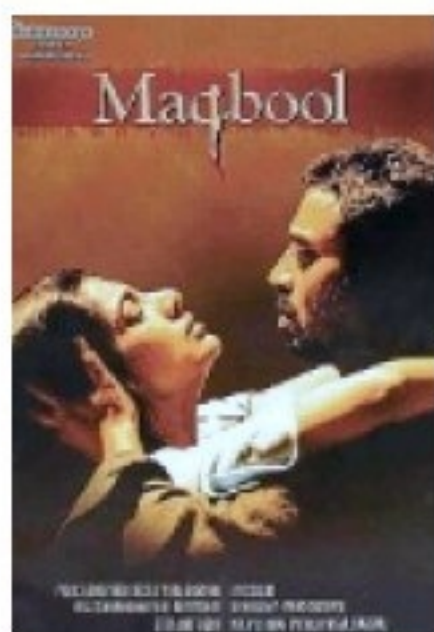


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BOLLYWOOD

India's take on English classics



Maqbool (2003)

This was the first film in Bollywood director and TIFF veteran Vishal Bharadwaj's Shakespear-ean trilogy. It sets Macbeth against Mumbai's criminal underworld. Irrfan Khan (The Lunchbox, Life of Pi) plays Macbeth, with Tabu as Lady Macbeth.



Lootera (2013)

Based on O. Henry's short story The Last Leaf, this period romantic drama is set in small-town Bengal, post Indian independence.

Aisha (2010)

This adaptation of Jane Austen's Emma was pitched as a female-centric romantic comedy set against New Delhi's upper crust. The movie was criticized for paying more attention to Bollywood starlet and fashionista Sonam Kapoor's designer costumes than the plot.



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Toronto-born Stephan James plays the legendary 1936 African American Olympic track-and-field gold medallist Jesse Owens in *Race*. CONTRIBUTED

BIOPIC

Canadian plays iconic Olympic athlete Jesse Owens in *Race*

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

In the film *Race*, Toronto-born actor Stephan James plays the greatest and most famous athlete in track and field history. But, when he was approached about the part, James wasn't sure exactly who Jesse Owens was.

"When I got that call that

they're making a Jesse Owens biopic I scratched my head a little," the 22-year-old says. "He won those gold medals, right? How many did he win again? I didn't know how many he won or where he won them or under what circumstances or when this all took place."

He quickly learned about Owens's early career, the Ohio State races that made him a legend and how an African American runner stared down Hitler by winning four gold medals at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

"After reading the script and researching his life to find out the backstory I was literally blown away. Blown away that this had taken place almost 80 years ago."

The film documents 28 turbulent months in Owens's life, from just before he enrolled in university to the Olympics where, ESPN would later say, the runner "single-handedly crush[ed] Hitler's myth of Aryan supremacy."

Jason Sudeikis, who plays Owens's college trainer Larry Snyder, says he wanted to make the movie because "it didn't lean on any one thing. It was bigger than just a sports film. It wasn't pontificating, we didn't treat Jesse with kid gloves and only as an icon. We can't have all our heroes with giant hammers and capes. While that is good at the box office and for people with stock options I don't know how good it is for little boys and girls who think



"We got to show the humanity behind [Jesse Owens], we see him warts and all."

Jason Sudeikis, who plays Owen's trainer

that is the only way they can become a hero. We got to show the humanity behind him, we see him warts and all. You see his petulance, you get to see his indecision, you see him make horrible missteps as a husband and father, and yet all through that adversity he has the humility and integrity to correct those mistakes. That is just as heroic as whipping Hitler's buns for four gold medals."

James, who was recently seen as civil rights leader John Lewis in the critically acclaimed *Selma*, felt the weight of playing a legend on screen.

"It is one thing to be leading your own film," he says. "To be number one on that call sheet, to know you have the biggest workload, to know that there are millions of dollars and ideas on your head. It's another thing to play Jesse Owens, the icon,

the man, the myth, the legend. A guy who is not only a pivotal person in American history but world history, so I knew I had my work cut for me. The pressure was there. Obviously he's not alive but his family is and have been very much involved since the beginning. There is a certain responsibility to play a real character, of course, but the great Jesse Owens is a whole other thing."

After starring as Owens in *Race*, James has his sights set on playing another kind of hero. "I want to play Spider-Man," he says. "I think that would be dope. I've always wanted to play a superhero but Spider-Man is so cool, so unassuming. I think I can relate a little."



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The Sutherlands' different way to bond

FORSAKEN

Kiefer and his dad, Donald, make a Western together

Donald Sutherland, 80, and Kiefer Sutherland, 49, have nearly 275 combined credits and 85 years of experience between them, and have somehow only shared the screen three times.

The first was 1983's *Max Dugan Returns*. The second was in 1996's *A Time to Kill*. Now, finally, in the period Western flick *Forsaken*, in theatres and on demand Friday, the Sutherlands are not only sharing scenes, but a bloodline, playing father and son for the first time.

Did you have an unspoken agreement that you wouldn't necessarily try to work with one another often?

Kiefer: I've wanted to work with my dad since I started. There were three actors who I admired through school — my dad, Gene Hackman and Bobby Duvall.

So why now?

Kiefer: When it wasn't working out organically, I started thinking of different ideas. It wasn't a fluke that we found something and we did it. It's something that I've wanted to do for 30 years and just thought we better get it done sooner than later.

Did you spend much time dissecting the story and your characters?

Kiefer: No.

Donald: Let me elaborate on that ... no.

Did you learn anything about each other during this process?

Kiefer: There's a way he goes to work and it's built for speed and it's incredibly effective and I think it's incredibly well thought out. I would have to say this film more than any other single experience I've had as an actor, I was caught off guard by how looking into my father's eyes would effect a scene.

Donald: Wait, what did you say?

Kiefer: That when I would be

in the middle of a scene and when I would actually look into your eyes, I would look into your eyes from my life. They have a resonance to me and they mean something to me and so I would have a visceral reaction to that.

Donald: Because it goes years back.

Kiefer: I had to make a conscious choice not to get in the way of that. So things came to me in the process of

making this film that would have been things that I would have had to work quite hard to arrive at. I felt like I was cheating.

Donald: It's absolutely true. You're doing ... it's stupid to say therapy, but your DNA informs a lot of your work. And the combination, you know it's the same DNA roughly.

Kiefer: I lost the tall stick. That wasn't one of the 21 pieces I got.

So in that way, does this film mean more to you?

Kiefer: I didn't spend as much time with my dad as I wanted to when I was growing up and he didn't spend as much time with me as he wanted to when I was growing up. I was thinking, "Well I didn't get to go on that fishing trip with my dad and I didn't get to do this with my dad." I wrapped two days after my dad and he was driv-

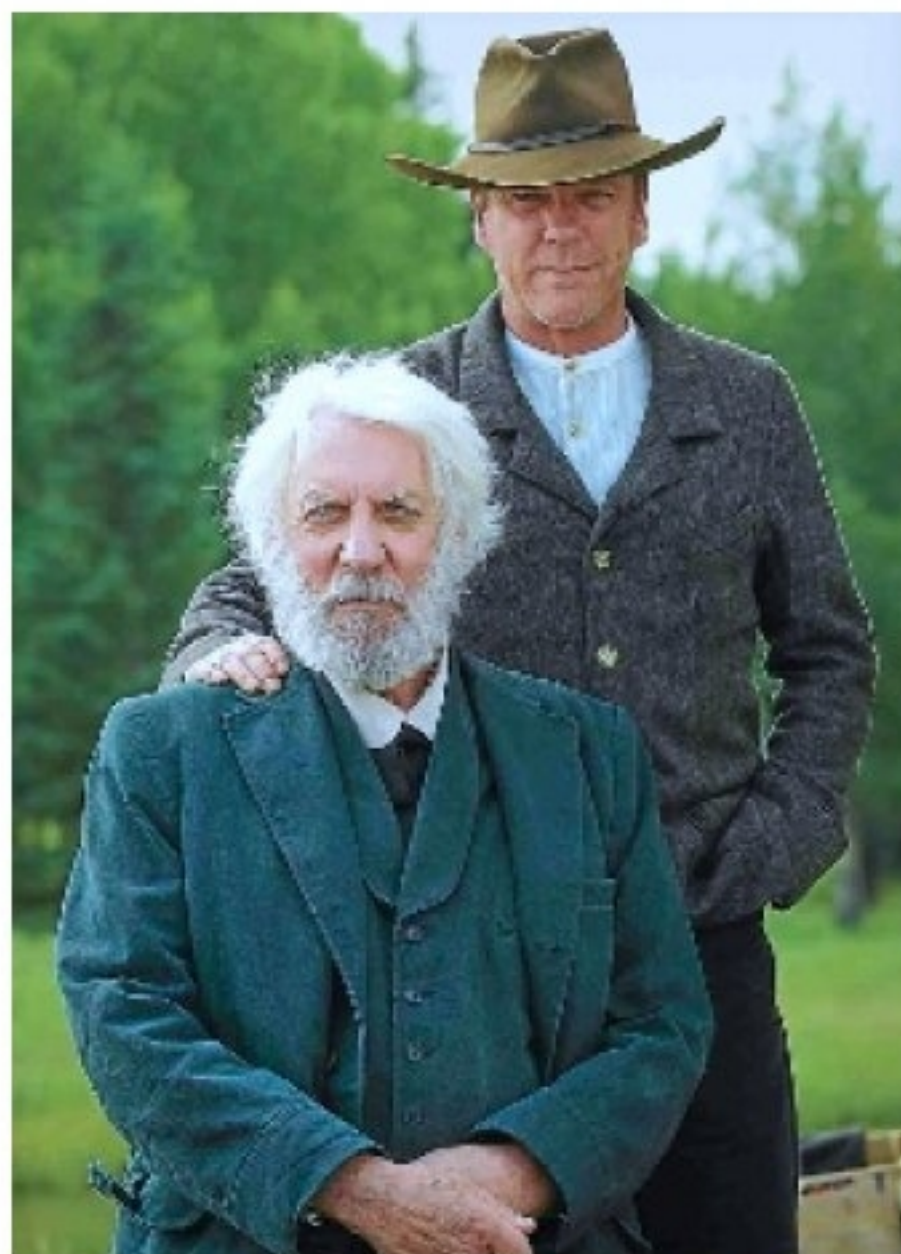
ing away, and I couldn't help but smile and realize wow, we just spent eight weeks together, 14 hours a day, six days a week. And we made something. That's a lot better than a fishing trip.

Donald: We went fishing!

Kiefer: Well I know we went fishing.

Donald: I don't like fishing.

Kiefer: I was using it more as a metaphor than anything else. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Art imitates life: Donald and Kiefer Sutherland play a father and son in the Western thriller *Forsaken*. DAN POWER/MOMENTUM

I wrapped two days after my dad and he was driving away, and I couldn't help but smile and realize wow, we just spent eight weeks together, 14 hours a day, six days a week.
Kiefer Sutherland

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Jutra's name pulled from film awards

BIOGRAPHY

Announcement made amid claims of child molestation

Quebec's film industry has decided to withdraw the name of alleged pedophile Claude Jutra from its annual awards show.

Québec Cinéma made the announcement Wednesday, a few hours after Culture Minister Helene David asked the organization to consider yanking Jutra's name from the awards, which honour the best in Quebec cinema.

A biography released this week said Jutra slept with young boys, while La Presse quoted a man Wednesday as saying the late filmmaker began touching him when he was six years old and that the abuse escalated over a 10-year period.

Patrick Roy, head of Québec Cinéma's board of directors, said he and his colleagues were "deeply upset" by the abuse the man allegedly suffered at the hands of Jutra.

"That's what has prompted

us to change the name of the gala," he told a news conference.

The man interviewed by La Presse said Jutra was a friend of his parents.

"He would always bring me presents," he said. "I was happy to see him. I was a kid. I would jump on his back and he would make me roll over. Everyone had the impression it was good fun."

The alleged victim said Jutra would lie beside him in his bed and ask for long hugs before he began touching the boy's genitals.

He said the abuse then heightened over the years and involved masturbation and oral sex.

No new name has yet been set for the next gala, which is scheduled for March 20.

David also requested a list of all the places in Quebec that bear Jutra's name so municipalities can decide whether to keep them as is.

"I'm very very troubled and so sad about what I read this morning," David said in Quebec City.

Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre also weighed in Wednesday, saying the city would move to withdraw Jutra's name from a downtown park as well as from a street in an east-end borough.



The biography of Quebec filmmaker Claude Jutra by author Yves Lever accused the famous director of sleeping with young boys. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Coderre said he could not "defend the indefensible."

The film director committed suicide in 1986 after battling Alzheimer's disease. The Jutra Awards, which recognize the best in Quebec cinema, have been named after him for nearly

20 years.

The biography, which was released Tuesday, says Jutra had a penchant for sleeping with young boys.

The allegations in Yves Lever's Claude Jutra, biographie upended the province's film world and

forced Québec Cinéma to say it was forming a committee to determine whether to keep the awards show named in his honour.

Lever said Jutra, whose body of work included *Mon oncle Antoine* and *Kamouraska*, "espe-



I was a kid. I would jump on his back and he would make me roll over. Everyone had the impression it was good fun.

Alleged victim

cially liked boys of 14 or 15 and even younger."

No complaints were ever filed with authorities.

Later on Wednesday, the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television, which hands out the Claude Jutra Award for the year's best feature film by a first-time director, announced it was dropping his name.

"In light of recent developments, the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television will rename its Claude Jutra award to the Canadian Screen Award for Best First Feature," Academy chair Martin Katz said in a statement.

That award, which began in 1993, is separate from the Quebec ones. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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RETROSPECT

A look at Claude Jutra's life and legacy

Allegations that celebrated filmmaker Claude Jutra was a pedophile have prompted Quebec's film industry to strip his name from its annual awards show, while Montreal's mayor says the city would move to withdraw Jutra's name from a downtown park and east-end street. Meanwhile, the Canadian Screen Awards is removing Jutra's name from a special prize for first-time filmmakers. A look at Jutra and his legacy:

Who he was

Jutra was a director, writer, actor, editor and cinematographer born on March 11, 1930 in Montreal. He studied medicine but never practised, choosing instead to learn about cinema at the National Film Board of Canada. In 1959, he left for Europe and befriended influential filmmaker Francois Truffaut.

His films

His first full-length feature outside the NFB was *À tout prendre* in 1963, a New Wave-style film that earned critical praise, won best picture at the 1964 Canadian Film Awards, and is credited with helping launch a new era of Quebec cinema. 1971's *Mon oncle Antoine* is widely



The acclaimed Quebecois director has been accused of pedophilia. THE CANADIAN PRESS

regarded as one of the greatest Canadian films ever made. Centred on a young man approaching adulthood in a small mining town in pre-Quiet Revolution Quebec, the film won acclaim in the U.S., the U.K. and France, and was a box-office success in English Canada. It went on to win more than 20 international prizes and eight Canadian Film Awards, including best feature

film and best direction.

English work

Jutra's various English dramas for CBC-TV include the 1977 movie *Dreamspeaker* and 1979's *The Wordsmith*, from a script by Mordecai Richler. His 1980 film *Surfacing* was an adaptation of the Margaret Atwood novel, but was a critical and commercial failure.

Awards

Jutra's accolades include the Prix Victor-Morin and the Prix Albert-Tessier. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of the Quiet Revolution by the Quebec government for his contributions to Quebec culture during the 1960s. A self-avowed separatist, Jutra refused an offer to be named to the Order of Canada in 1972, stating he did not believe in a bilingual or united Canada.

Later life

In the early 1980s, Jutra was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's disease. He continued to work steadily, directing and appearing in small supporting roles. He was last seen in the winter of 1986, and his body was found in the St. Lawrence River the next spring.

The allegations

A biography released this week stated that Jutra slept with young boys, while Montreal *La Presse* quoted a man Wednesday as saying the late filmmaker began touching him when he was six years old and that the abuse escalated over a 10-year period.

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ABC Entertainment's new president Channing Dungey.
ABC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHANNING DUNGEY

ABC's new programming head is a network TV first

The head of the ABC Entertainment Group is departing amid low ratings, to be replaced by the first African-American to head a broadcast TV network.

ABC Entertainment President Paul Lee has decided to leave, the network announced Wednesday.

His successor is Channing Dungey, who has been ABC Entertainment Group's executive vice-president for drama development, movies and miniseries, overseeing drama pilots and the launches of series.

Dungey shepherded ABC hits

including *Scandal*, *How to Get Away with Murder* and *Quantico*.

The changeover comes a year after Ben Sherwood became president of the Disney-ABC TV Group and after Lee's nearly six years as programming chief.

"Channing is a gifted leader and a proven magnet for top creative talent, with an impressive record of helping to create compelling and popular series," Sherwood said in a statement.

Dungey is both the first black network programming chief and a rare female executive. Change

has come faster for women than minorities in the TV executive ranks, with Jennifer Salke serving as NBC's entertainment president and, at Fox Television Group, Dana Walden sharing chair and CEO duties with Gary Newman.

Dungey's appointment as ABC Entertainment president comes at a time of increased scrutiny of Hollywood's lack of diversity on- and off-camera, with attention focused recently on the Oscars' all-white slate of nominees for this month's awards.

Dungey said in a statement

that she is "thrilled and humbled" by the opportunity.

The British-born Lee can claim credit for bringing notable diversity to ABC with shows including *Black-ish* and *Fresh Off the Boat*. The network also became home to megaproducer Shonda Rhimes' series that feature multi-ethnic casts and black stars. They include Viola Davis in *How to Get Away with Murder* and Kerry Washington in *Scandal*. He did not say why he was leaving or what his next job would be.

"It is a mission statement to

reflect America," Lee told a 2014 meeting of the Television Critics Association. "That's not so much diversity as authenticity when you reflect America."

Dungey, a graduate of UCLA's School of Theater, Film and Television, has been with ABC since 2004, starting with ABC Studios. Previously, she worked at production companies and as a production executive at Warner Bros., handling films including *Bridges of Madison County* and *The Matrix*.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Now playing



MYSTERY/SUSPENSE

Shut In

Director: Farren Blackburn
Starring: Naomi Watts, Jacob Tremblay

Shut In is a heart pounding thriller starring Naomi Watts as a widowed child psychologist who lives an isolated existence in rural New England. Caught in a deadly winter storm, she must find a way to rescue a young boy before he disappears forever.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
NOT YET REVIEWED + 97%



DRAMA

Race

Director: Stephen Hopkins
Starring: Stephan James, Jason Sudeikis

Race is based on the incredible true story of Jesse Owens, the legendary athletic superstar whose quest to become the greatest track and field athlete in history thrusts him onto the world stage of the 1936 Olympics, where he faces off against Adolf Hitler's vision of Aryan supremacy.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
NOT YET REVIEWED + 95%



DRAMA

Risen

Director: Kevin Reynolds
Starring: Joseph Fiennes, Tom Felton

The first 40 days after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is told through the eyes of an agnostic Roman Centurion charged by Pontius Pilate to investigate rumors of a risen Jewish Messiah and locate the missing deceased body of Jesus of Nazareth in order to subdue an imminent uprising in Jerusalem.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
NOT YET REVIEWED + 92%



HORROR

The Witch

Director: Robert Eggers
Starring: Anya Taylor-Joy, Ralph Ineson

In this exquisitely made and terrifying new horror film, the age-old concepts of witchcraft, black magic and possession are innovatively brought together to tell the intimate and riveting story of one family's frightful unraveling in the New England wilderness circa 1630.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
87% + 96%



DRAMA

Touched With Fire

Director: Paul Dario
Starring: Katie Holmes, Luke Kirby

When two poets with bipolar disorder meet in a treatment facility, their chemistry is instant and intense driving each other's mania to new heights. They pursue their passion which breaks outside the bounds of sanity.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
63% 100%



ACTION/COMEDY

Deadpool

Director: Tim Miller
Starring: Ryan Reynolds, Morena Baccarin

Based on Marvel Comics' most unconventional anti-hero, Deadpool tells the origin story of former Special Forces operative turned mercenary Wade Wilson, who after being subjected to a rogue experiment that leaves him with accelerated healing powers, adopts the alter ego Deadpool.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: Audience:
81% + 99%

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Katie Holmes inspired to direct by Sarah Polley

NEW CHALLENGES

Star hungry for more behind-the-camera and indie work

Actress Katie Holmes credits Canadian filmmaker Sarah Polley with her decision to start directing.

"Sarah Polley is a huge inspiration for me and a very strong reason why I said I think I want to try it," Holmes said in an interview from Los Angeles.

Stretching herself as an actress, along with moving behind the camera, seems part of a coming into her own phase for the 37-year-old Holmes, who remains best known for her tabloid-fodder marriage to Tom Cruise. They divorced in 2012.

Holmes portrays bipolar poet Carla in drama *Touched With Fire*, which opens this weekend. Her character becomes involved with Marco, a similarly afflicted writer (Canada's Luke Kirby), while both are in a psychiatric hospital.

"I was really drawn to the challenge of it as an actor and I felt great doing it," said Holmes. She's gratified people familiar with the disorder have responded, "they felt heard — and that is the most rewarding thing you can get from a piece of work."

The movie also explores the use of medications. Marco, having discovered a book about legendary artists with manic-depressive illness, is convinced that, like Vincent Van Gogh, his disorder sparks his genius and antidepressants only dull his brain.

Although Torstar News Service was instructed to stay away from mentioning Cruise or Scientology in our interview, a few days later, Today show host Matt Lauer reminded Holmes of his tense 2005 interview with Cruise — with his then-fiancée Holmes sitting just off the set — and the actor's dismissal of psychiatry and antidepressants. He asked Holmes what she thinks *Touched With Fire* says about medication and mental illness.

Holmes responded that director Paul Dario, "puts the question out there for the audience to make their own decision."

It was a challenge to play Carla, Holmes told Torstar News Service, hitting the emotional extremes experienced by her character in authentic ways as the pair struggle to live outside the hospital while convincing their families that they are good for each other. They try to



Katie Holmes and Luke Kirby in *Touched With Fire*. JOEY KUH, ROADSIDE ATTRACTION

build a life together, with their situation complicated by Carla's pregnancy.

Holmes said writer-director Dario, who has bipolar disorder, was her best guide for getting to Carla's heart.

"I depended on (him) a lot," she said of Dario, who was "very frank about Carla and Marco and (how) they exhibited parts of himself," said Holmes, adding "there was no part of this process that was easy; every day was emotional."

In a poignant scene, Carla begs her mother (played by Christine Lahti) to help her understand what has happened to her.

"I felt that was crucial to this character," said Holmes. "It gave you context very quickly into the film and the pain of this disease. When I read (the script), I was really moved by it and it kind of shook me because the thought of not knowing who you were and being so unstable has to feel so awful."

Holmes said the long days on set doing such emotional work were exhausting. She used the weekends to "refuel," spending time "just parenting" with daughter Suri, 9.

Holmes has just finished directing her first movie, *All We Had*. She also stars in the drama, based on Annie Weatherwax's novel about homelessness and hope seen through the eyes of

a young mother and her daughter.

And she'll return to play former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy in TV's *The Kennedys: After Camelot*, the followup to the 2011 miniseries. Holmes, an executive producer on the Hamilton-shot production, will also direct an episode. It airs later this year.

Holmes is preparing for her next directing job by "reading a lot of books" with an eye to optioning more for future films, allowing her to "continue telling the stories I want to tell through the lenses I want to tell it."

Studio picture or indie, Holmes said her "wonderful" first experience behind the camera has made her hungry for more.

"I enjoyed the process of thinking on my feet, working with actors, trying to inspire different choices in their performance ... and just enjoying how much I felt so moved by how much people around me contributed to make the movie the vision I had," she said. "I'm very excited about it."

Inspired by Polley

"She has such a poetry to her filmmaking," Katie Holmes says of Sarah Polley, shown at left, who she talked to for a 2013 story in *Interview* magazine about *Stories We Tell*, the Toronto director's revelatory documentary about her family history.

The two had worked together on energetic 1999 comedy-drama *Go*. Holmes was also familiar with Polley's award-winning 2011 drama *Take This Waltz* because her *Touched With Fire* co-star Luke Kirby also starred in Polley's Toronto-shot drama.

Holmes, who called *Stories We Tell* "incredible," asked Polley to share wisdom on acting and directing, family-work balance and who inspires her.

Holmes also praises her female contemporaries who are directing, including Olivia Wilde and her *All We Had* co-star Judy Greer.

"There are so many inspiring women out there who are telling stories in challenging ways," said Holmes. "It's wonderful that there's this group (of) people going out there and doing it and getting their voices heard. I want to be part of that even more." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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JUNO NOMINEES WORKING DAY JOBS TO SUPPORT THEIR ART

Domestic success doesn't always pay the bills. Here are three of this year's Juno nominees who are only moonlighting in the entertainment industry. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

The Swinging Belles

Nominated for children's album of the year, primary school teachers and band members Laura Winter and Erin Power have a secret weapon: a chorus of critics who are nothing short of blunt.

"The wonderful thing about kids is they're brilliant, creative and incredibly honest," said Power. "You can almost tell immediately if they like that song or not."

"It's wonderful to workshop the songs with the kids and they'll often hear them before anyone else does."

Still, the St. John's group — a trio with Power's partner, Duane Andrews, with whom she has a 10-year-old son — can't exactly claim that balancing a full-time teaching job with a music career is strictly elementary.

"It's pretty much two full-time jobs really that you have," she said. "We teach during the day and then we are either working on the business side of things with the marketing and promotions, or we're (making) music and rehearsing."

"It's a constant. We're always at it when we're not in school."

BANJO BUILDERS

Pharis and Jason Romero

If there was a Juno for juggling, it might go to this industrious pair, nominated for traditional roots album of the year.

Consider that in addition to releasing five albums in less than seven years, the Horsefly, B.C., couple runs a custom banjo-crafting business with a four-year order backlog. They're so busy, they accept only 25 orders per year.

This year, they opened the call for orders on Jan. 1 at midnight. By 7 a.m., they'd already reached their annual quota. Oh, and they also have a two-year-old daughter, and Pharis is eight months pregnant with a baby who's due to arrive two days before the Junos.

"We're tired," laughed Pharis, 37. "We have to really, really love what we're doing to do what we're doing."

ODD JOBS

Chandler Levack

Levack had just wrapped a six-hour shift running dishes at Momofuku when she took her apron off, sat in the lobby of the Shangri-La Hotel, and realized she'd been nominated for her second Juno in two years (for video of the year, with co-director Jeremy

Schaulin-Rioux).

"In that moment, it just felt a little ridiculous because I feel like, if anything ... I'm more unemployable than ever," she laughed.

Well, she was fired from the Momofuku gig a week later. She's also worked in music journalism, as an SEO content editor, at a Russian daycare and as a helping hand at her mom's catering business.

She and Schaulin-Rioux have now collaborated on two creative Juno-nominated videos for poppy punk band Pup, the recent of which was made cheaply with a \$3,500 Much grant and will compete against Adele and Xavier Dolan's blockbuster Hello.

Levack is now writing a feature film about the Montreal indie-rock scene — but she doesn't expect to quit the day-job hustle anytime soon.

"The idea that you could make a living as a music-video director for indie bands in Canada is really far fetched," she said. "It's just a reality that if you're an artist in Canada, you're going to need a day job."

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Accountants by day, metalheads by night



Brothers Shane and Jesse Matthewson often surprise fans of their noise band Ken mode with their accounting backgrounds.

TREVOR HAGAN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JUNO AWARDS

KEN mode are equal pros at rackets and tax brackets

It's unlikely anyone has ever listened to Jesse Matthewson seethe and scathe over KEN mode's pummelling, unhinged noise rock nihilism and subsequently wondered: could this guy save me some money on my taxes?

In fact, he probably could. Matthewson and his brother, Shane, are both accountants trained at Manitoba's Asper School of Business. They're also the creative spine of KEN mode — which stands for Kill Everyone Now, by the way — an anarchic, perennially pissed-off purveyor of throat-shredding tirades and titanic Shellac anti-grooves.

If it seems to you that there's something incongruous about crunching numbers by day and eardrums by night, you're not alone.

"It definitely helps us stand out," laughed Ilesse.

That much was obvious the first time KEN mode was

nominated for a Juno, at 2012's soiree in Ottawa. The band triumphed in the metal/hard music category in its inaugural year, beating out the tattoo-strewn, long-haired likes of Anvil and Cauldron, bands that look every bit the part of hard-rocking, hard-living metal titans.

Then there was Shane, clad in a cerulean checked shirt tucked neatly into dressy navy trousers, and Jesse, wearing all black but still sufficiently buttoned-and-tucked business-casual that was more concierge than Cannibal Corpse.

"We didn't really look like the rest of the bands that were up for the metal category," Mathewson conceded. "We don't necessarily wear the classic metal uniform. The mentality we have is different. There are a lot of people in (metal) that have that sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll mantra.

"We've always been on the nerdier side."

The Matthewson brothers formed KEN mode out of high school in 1999, while simultaneously aiming for careers that would financially support their musical passion.

For their first three albums, the balance worked, though

their financial clients knew nothing of their heavy moonlighting. Bands they encountered were also in the dark, though they tended to come to a quick conclusion about the brothers.

"Yeah, that we're nerds," Matthewson said. "They would find out we're not all that 'fun' — I think we're fun, but we don't partake in a lot of the drug-doing that people equate with fun."

Around 2010, the Matthews put book-balancing on the back-burner and barrelled out onto the road full-time. Clearly, the decision paid dividends — the three albums they've released since have been more popular and all wrested Juno nominations, including another metal/hard music nomination at this year's ceremony.

"Usually you tour your butt off when you're young because you have nothing to lose — no kids, things don't hurt, it's OK if you're not making money," Jesse said. "Whereas we went to school, got jobs, then decided to quit the jobs. We were 30-year-olds."

Matthewson turns 35 this year, and suddenly, the prospect of sleeping on floors, sub-

sisting on roadside fast food and cramping into a van for hours on end is less charming. "I'm no spring chicken anymore."

Well, just as the road became too taxing, the Matthewsons decided to reinvest some of their time.

The brothers are taking their parents' business, MKM Management Services, and rebranding it to provide accounting, tax and business-management services for artists, combining their two areas of expertise. They've always kept close tabs on their costs — Jesse mentions that the band spent \$20,000 on gas in 2013, for instance — in a way other groups haven't.

Shane and Jesse have always felt that they didn't fit in anywhere — not in hard music, not among accountants. The new venture might bridge that gap, though the ever-dimensional Jesse also mentions that he's currently training for his first amateur kick-boxing fight on March 12. In other words, KEN mode will probably always occupy a bracket all their own.

"We have a whole weird, wide set of interests," he said. "It's this weird cross-section of not really fitting in anywhere."

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Kendall and Kylie mobile game debuts at number 1

Cartoony celeb game rockets to top of Apple app charts

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

There does seem to be a unique affinity for fans of the Kardashian-Jenners to like narrative role-playing games.

Niccolo de Masi, Glu Mobile President and CEO



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Population: 616 and one teen internet sensation

ALASKA

Small-town teen brings traditional song online

He could be considered the Justin Bieber of Alaska.

Teen Internet sensation Byron Nicholai is a Yup'ik Eskimo from Toksook (TUCK'-sook) Bay, a tiny community on Nelson Island just off Alaska's mainland in the Bering Sea. It's about 850 kilometres west of Anchorage.

The 17-year-old high school senior performs songs that blend traditional Yup'ik and English. He has more than 22,000 followers on the Facebook page I Sing, You Dance., where he posts videos of himself singing and drumming.

Last weekend, Nicholai performed at the University of Alaska Southeast campus in Juneau as part of a program that prepares indigenous teachers



Byron Nicholai performs for his popular Facebook page I Sing, You Dance. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

for Alaska's schools.

He told the audience his drumming allows him to share the culture of his vil-

lage, which has about 600 residents.

Among the songs he performed was one poking fun

at dating in rural, sparsely populated Alaska villages. He called it the Cousin Song.

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From fleeing Kosovo to modeling for Kanye

STYLE

Aspiring East coast designer goes West for Fashion Week

When she was eight, Hafiiia Mira didn't know what some mornings would bring as her family sought safety underground as bombs fell around

them in Kosovo. Now more than 15 years later, the 24-year-old model and aspiring fashion designer is revelling in newfound fame that has landed her centre stage in Kanye West's orbit.

Mira just returned to her adopted home of Halifax from New York Fashion Week, where the former bartender modelled the wares of the musician and clothing designer. She spoke to The Canadian Press:

How did you end up on a stage at Madison Square Garden, modelling the clothes of Kanye West?

I've grown up creating my own creations and one of my friends had gone to L.A. and had met up with Kanye and mentioned that I sew my own clothing. So it wasn't even about the modelling to begin with. So he went on my Instagram and saw everything, and his representative

sent me a bunch of emails.

What did the emails say?

It was just, 'Hey, on behalf of Kanye West, we would like to invite you to New York and possibly work with us.' That was last February and they flew me out that week. I got there and did castings and fittings and afterwards we did a photo shoot.

What was it like to meet

Kanye West?

He was very, very friendly. He's a great guy, very inspiring. I respect anyone that works hard and follows their passion. I was quite surprised that he already knew who I was before I had even talked to him.

So you've worked for him three times and recently attended the launch of a magazine of his clothing in New York?

I went to the party and I walked in and to my surprise, I learned that I had been chosen to be on the cover of the magazine. It was really cool. They were like huge wall canvases in this huge warehouse and a bunch of different photographers and artists were there.

What's it like to step off the plane in Halifax after all that?

Halifax is always my peace and my calm. I get to come back and relax and unwind and see my family and friends. Whether I go back home to Europe or to New York, anywhere I go I'm always glad to come back to Halifax.

You were very young when you left Kosovo. What are your recollections of living there?

I can tell you every single

day that I lived there. It was extremely hard. My family lost everything. The one thing I wish I could tell people is, I wish they could appreciate everything they have here. They're so fortunate here.

Was there fighting taking place near your home?

Yes, we hid, we left our home, we were underground with hundreds of other refugees. We could hear bombs all around us. It was absolutely crazy. My mom would prepare us every night. She would prepare us every night and we would have jackets on and food nearby that she would prepare the night before just in case we had to leave right away. My mom is the most incredible woman in the world.

You have gone through a lot to get to this point. What do you think when you reflect on where you came from and where you are now?

There was a moment when I was doing the first fashion show, it was pitch black, surrounded by a couple hundred people and I actually teared up and started to cry because I just could not believe where I had come from and all of the things that went into me just standing there alone and it was just quite overwhelming.

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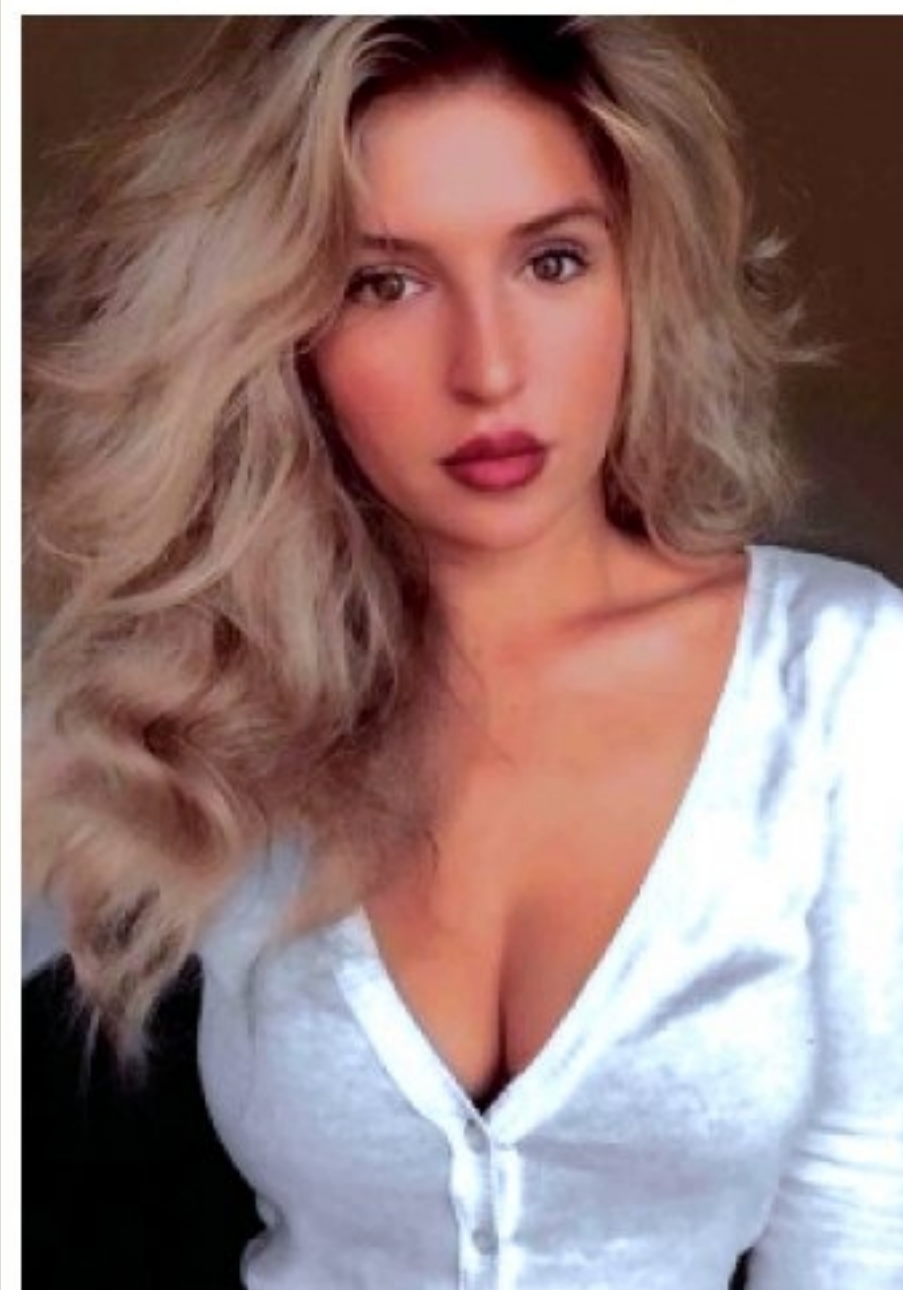
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Hafiiia Mira INSTAGRAM/HAFIIAMIRA/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The bold and the beautiful

Highlights from New York Fashion Week



A FEATHER FEST AT MICHAEL KORS

If you had to pick one adjective to sum up Michael Kors' latest collection, a good bet might be "feathery."

The designer was going for "the flirty freedom of things that move," to quote his production notes, and there were flirty feathers on at least 10 of the looks he sent down the runway — starting with feathers adorning a pair of jeans, and moving to feathers on a houndstooth tweed coat, on a denim or tweed skirt, and on black silk for ultimate evening effect.

There were also plenty of sequins, adding a very bright sheen to some of the fashions, especially a silver sequin embroidered "streamer" dress, with the hem cut into strips that indeed looked like streamers.



SOPHOMORE SEASON FOR DKNY DESIGNERS

Dao-Yi Chow and Maxwell Osborne are two pretty happy guys.

The Public School founders unveiled their sophomore season as creative directors of DKNY after two fashion week rounds for their own brand. And they had some fun.

The two used bright red shoe laces for lace-up detailing worthy of a '90s club on red and black satin skirts and dresses. They rocked out a nice red plaid for dresses, coats and jackets, and they warned the world: "Don't Knock New York" on a black sweatshirt as they played with messaging like their predecessor and mentor Donna Karan did years before them.

RALPH LAUREN TURNS TO ROCK

Parading impeccable models down the runway in taupe cashmere and men's ties may not sound all that new, but that's where Ralph Lauren went for fall, until he took a turn to rock 'n' roll.

There were "cool rocker" coats and jackets of blue and black in equal parts pirate and Sgt. Pepper. Large ruffles were abundant along the fronts of white blouses — and slightly smaller ones for a curious winged effect on a backless black jumpsuit.

Ralph Lauren using the term "cool rocker" is just plain cute. So was a brown tweed patchwork coat that had large, highly useful pockets sewn on. It was worn with a wide leather belt over a cashmere dress and mocha suede boots.



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A princess in training

Jennifer White
For Torstar News Service

Anything worth doing is worth doing poorly, in a rush, while complaining. As an Olympic-level procrastinator, this strategy has steered me through the most stressful of life experiences (ask me about my master's thesis one day).

But when I found myself a mere four weeks before the Feb. 21 half-marathon at Disney World with no significant training in months, I wanted to run. Away.

My knee injury (and IT band tightness and hip inflexibility and everything my Mamma gave me) had not just cramped my running-plan style, it had shrunk my training window to insignificance.

But after being poked, prodded, stretched, strengthened and, finally, braced, I was literally back on the road. I had no idea how to get where I wanted to be (again, uncannily like that thesis) and was desperate to find some way, any way, of making it to the finish line. Because what lay ahead could be a veritable Turducken of embarrassment; a lack of training wrapped in injury-plagued luck, nauseatingly stuffed inside a high-stakes social experiment that (apparently) people are reading about in a national newspaper.

I felt awesome. And by awesome I mean sick. That's when I called a Hail Mary. I scoured the Internet for tips from people who were underprepared to run such a distance, trying to find the best ways to do no harm to myself, finish in the upright position and still have enough gas in the tank for a few jars of celebratory ale

at the finish line. After collating all of the best plans from the brightest running minds around, I whipped and frapped them into the single-best Hail Mary running plan in the entire universe, the core principles of which boiled down to one guiding rule: Do Your Best.

My focus turned first to endurance. If I was going to have the fortitude to walk 21 kilometres, let alone run it, I needed to get my heart a-pumping again. Mondays were 30 minutes of medium-intensity intervals, combined with short bursts of powerful sprints in order to prepare best for the outlay of power necessary during the race. Wednesdays featured an "at-half-marathon-pace" run for 30 minutes. And the weekend heralded a slower-than-molasses long run where I would delicately plod my way through an increasingly mind-numbing distance until I either hit the magic 16-kilometre mark a week before the race, or crumpled into the fetal position.

But wait, there's more! Tues-

days, Thursdays and Fridays held a variety of Herculean tasks. This chocolate box of unlimited delights included cross-training, cycling, swimming and my personal (absolutely opposite of) favourite, yoga. On one particularly painful run, I wondered if this was all worth it. But while in the middle of a sprint, I took a moment and looked down at myself. I saw a strong, powerful woman. I saw that she was running her guts out in the middle of an Ontario winter. And I saw that she was dressed head-to-toe in her ridiculously elaborate Disney half-marathon costume, just to make sure it didn't chafe on the big day. If I can do what I've done while dressed as Ursula, the villainous sea-witch in *The Little Mermaid*, I can flipping do anything.

Sick of running through the sleet and snow? Then go to Disney. The company's resorts offer a number of marathons throughout the year to make running even more fun. Writer Jennifer White shares her last-minute prep for this weekend's Princess Run in Florida.

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4 ASIAN FESTIVALS THAT SHOULDN'T BE MISSED

A continent renowned for its beguiling array of cultures, Asia hosts a myriad of festivals. Each marked by their own traditions and activities, these annual celebrations make for wonderful tourist experiences. Whether water fighting in Thailand or sending lanterns afloat in Myanmar, you can take part in these festivals in 2016. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



1 Poya festival (Sri Lanka)

While many major festivals in Asia are annual, the Poya festivals in Sri Lanka coincide with **each full moon**, meaning they number at least a dozen per year. These Buddhist festivals are public holidays and derive from the belief that Buddha wanted his followers to carry out significant spiritual activities on the day of every full moon. Many worshippers don white clothing and visit Buddhist temples or shrines to join ceremonies and make offerings. There also are street parades involving music and children dressed in traditional costumes.



2 Songkran (Thailand)

Few festivals in Asia encourage the participation of tourists as readily as Thailand's nationwide Songkran water festival, which marks the Thai New Year on **April 13**. For three days each April, Thai cities, towns and villages switch into party mode as their streets swell with local and foreign revellers dousing each other with water.



3 Bonalu (Hyderabad, India)

Smeared in body paint, men writhe and groan in an apparent state of trance. Next to them, a line of women wearing saris sway while balancing ornate pots upon their heads. This group forms a procession along the stone paths which lead through ancient Golkonda Fort. It is a fascinating manner in which Hindus give thanks to the Goddess Mahakali **every July**.



4 Loi Krathong (Southeast Asia)

The serene experience of lighting a lantern and setting it floating down a river, across a lake, into the ocean or up into the sky is the key activity of this Buddhist festival that takes place on **Nov. 15**. The act of sending these lanterns on their way symbolizes the disposal of one's bad luck for the previous year. It is celebrated in Thailand, Myanmar, Malaysia, China and Vietnam.

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The appeal of the open road



ISTOCK

BEHIND THE WHEEL

For some, RV travel beats luxury hotels

Jason Menard

There are those whose idea of luxury travel involve five-star resorts — and the flight delays and challenges that it takes in

getting to them. But for others, forsaking the friendly skies for the open road is where it's at. So what is the appeal of RVing? Why would one decide to forgo the creature comforts of hotels and the immediacy of flying to get behind the wheel of a moving house and take your vacation destination with you?

For Sam Frame, provincial director of the Alberta Good Sam Club, it's all about comfort and familiarity.

"For one thing, you know who

slept on that pillow the night before," he said, laughing. "And if you want to grab a bottle of water from the fridge, you don't have to worry about calling down to room service and having someone come up to your room."

Plus, with today's modern RVs and campers, you can get away from it all without really getting away from the creature comforts of life.

"Trailers come with so many services — like wifi and cable — it's like pulling a home," Frame

said. "Some people say they're better equipped in their trailer than they are in their home."

And by driving your destination, Frame explained that you can go off the beaten path much easier than by flying.

"It enables us to get into smaller places that are not on the common track," he said, adding that last year he and a few other club members took a two-and-a-half-week tour from Calgary, through Washington to California, and back up through Idaho

and Montana. "We saw some beautiful countryside."

Unlike those who fly in and out of a community, the RV lifestyle allows visitors to truly integrate themselves into a community — and benefit from their hospitality.

"Unless you're doing a lot of research, you're not going to know about things like those boots-on-the-ground locals," he said, adding that most locals are very welcoming of RVers. "You're in their coffee shops,

campgrounds, or resorts. You're helping their community and supporting their economy, so they're going to be more willing to help you."

And, most importantly, Frame said, wherever you go, make sure you enjoy the experience.

"When you have bought an RV and you're part of the lifestyle, just get out there and relax," he said. "Stop and smell the roses, get away from the 'honey-do' list. Look up and realize that the sky is blue."

How to shop for your RV

In many ways, buying an RV can be your biggest — both literally and figuratively — purchase of your life. And while a home may be larger, buying a mobile home requires prospective customers to do a little research and know what they want.

"Here's what I stress above all — and it's a line I've used for over 35 years in the industry — shop the dealer harder than the product," explained Keith Crone, a sales consultant at Bucars RV Centre in Balzac, AB. "I can hop on the Internet and find all kinds of motor homes, trailers, and RVs all over the province or country. People get caught up in chasing the perception of savings way outside of the trading area."

"Try to find a dealer that's close to where you live or where you're going to stow your RV."

The reason, Crone explained, is that while you might be able to find a lower price elsewhere, when it comes to getting support and service for your RV, you're going to need easy access to the people who sold you your product.



Buying an RV requires lots of research before you find the right one for you. ISTOCK

"We're not as sophisticated as the auto industry. You can't just take your vehicle to any auto shop in the area and they'll be able to fix it," he said. "With an RV, in this day and age, the first line is to call the dealer who sold it to you."

So how do you know what you should buy? For Crone, a good salesman will not only work to find out what you need and want, but also try to sell you

something that's going to serve you well both in the short and the long-term.

"Some is good, more is better, and too much is just right," Crone said. "By that I mean I'd rather sell someone an RV that they can grow into rather than selling them something that after one or two trips, they're going to realize is too small."

When it comes to buying a towed trailer, it's important to

know not only what you want, but what you have, Crone said. That means understanding the limitations of your towing vehicle — and that includes ensuring that not only the towed weight of the trailer is under your vehicle's specifications, but that a fully loaded trailer — complete with water, food, and other necessities of travel — falls under that weight limit.

JASON MENARD

DRIVING YOUR RV

Not your regular road trip

You may be an excellent driver with years of experience behind the wheel, but there's a big difference between driving a car or truck and driving an RV or towing a camper.

"The problems come when people start driving and they don't realize that you're going to require a longer time to stop, that the vehicle has a slower acceleration, and it's more difficult to change lanes," explained Ron Wilson, manager of operation fleet safety driver education for the Alberta Automobile Association. "Problems can happen when someone's driving a big, luxury RV or towing a trailer, and makes a jerky move with the steering wheel."

Wilson explained that RVs require at least a four- to six-second stopping distance — and that's on dry roads. And even turning can require a little more attention. "RVs have

a wider turning pattern and you may have to swing into the other lane." Due to the size and weight of the vehicles in question, drivers need to be aware that their vehicle's pick-up may not be quite so robust compared what they're used to in their day-to-day driving.

"RVs can't accelerate very quickly, so you'd need to keep that in mind when driving," he said. "But you probably shouldn't be passing a row of vehicles in an RV."

If you're planning on towing a camper, or towing your personal vehicle behind an RV, Wilson said that you need to make sure what your vehicle's capabilities are.

"You're going to want to have a vehicle that's fit for purpose," he said. "Check your owner's manual to ensure that your vehicle is capable of towing that weight."

Wilson said that getting some experience behind the wheel of a prospective vehicle is integral to making a successful purchase. "Something I always tell people is to make sure they take their vehicle out for a test drive or two," he said. "And it's not just going forward, but try backing up, checking the blind spots." JASON MENARD



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RV CLUBS

Camping community grows and changes

Jason Menard

Buying an RV, for many people, is about buying into a lifestyle and community. And a great way to experience the best that RVing has to offer can come in the form of joining an RV club.

And for Sam Frame, the provincial director of the Alberta

Good Sam Club, there was a much more pressing reason to get more involved with the community.

"Part of the appeal for us is that we're empty-nesters. We joined a club because we want to use our RV," he said. "Clubs feature people from all walks of life. It definitely will augment their experience — probably in ways that they can't envision."

Frame said that he's noticed a change in the demographics of the RV community.

"Since we've been in the lifestyle, it's changed. Traditionally, it was a blue collar worker with kids who went out and bought an RV because that's what they could afford

“My wife said, ‘If we don’t get out and use it, we’re going to get rid of it.’”

Sam Frame

for vacation," he said. "Now you get everyone from the blue collar to VPs of major companies, movie stars and others, and we're all part of the same community."

It's a community that's incredibly inclusive and supportive of each other, Frame said.

"The community is very family-oriented. Everybody

says hello to their neighbour; you're living with glass doors, walking around the camp area, and the kids all get together to play," Frame explained.

The Good Sam club harkens back to a California club called the Good Samaritans, RVers who would stop and help those in need. That attitude continues to this day where Good Sam clubs support their local communities.

Frame said that his club at least doesn't expect people to make a significant commitment to them. "If you only can come out once or twice a year, that's fine," he said, adding that joining a club should be all about enjoyment and convenience.



RV clubs can help facilitate socializing. ISTOCK

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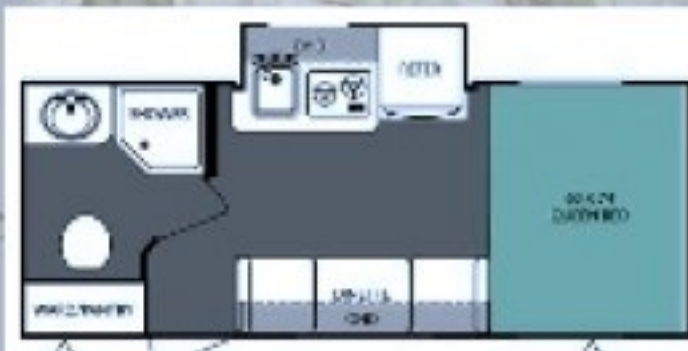


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David Price made his first big-money throws of spring training as Red Sox pitchers and catchers reported to Fort Myers, Fla.



The Jets' Bryan Little is attended to by a trainer after he received a hit from Anton Stralman of the Lightning on Thursday night in Tampa, Fla. MIKE CARLSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stamkos, Lightning shoot down Jets

NHL

Winnipeg's Little leaves game after hit to his head

Steven Stamkos scored in the fifth round of the shootout and the Tampa Bay Lightning rebounded after blowing a three-goal lead to beat the Winnipeg Jets 6-5 on Thursday night.

THURSDAY In Tampa



The Lightning won the shootout 2-1.

Tampa Bay got regulation goals from Stamkos, Victor Hedman, Jonathan Marchessault, Alex Killorn and Nikita Kucherov. Andrew Ladd had two goals

for the Jets, who trailed 4-1 early in the third. Tyler Myers, Mark Scheifele and Mathieu Perreault had the other Winnipeg goals.

Winnipeg's Bryan Little was hurt late in the second period and needed assistance off the ice before heading to the locker-room. It appeared Hedman made contact in the neutral zone with Little, who looked like he lost his balance and lowered his head before getting hit by Anton Stralman.

There was no other informa-

tion immediately available about Little, who didn't return.

Blake Wheeler went after Stralman and was given four minutes for roughing. Stralman got a two-minute roughing penalty.

It was announced at the start of the third period that Jets coach Paul Maurice, who had a heated discussion with officials after the Little play, had been given a game misconduct. A minor penalty to the Winnipeg bench was assessed in the second period.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Raptors idle on trade-deadline day

Moments after Thursday afternoon's NBA trade deadline passed, Toronto Raptors general manager Masai Ujiri walked into a room full of reporters and joked: "You guys are busier than I am."

Ujiri opted to keep his roster intact as the 3 p.m. ET deadline came and went, saying there was "nothing there good enough for us." He pointed to Toronto's momentum. The Raptors (35-17) are winners of 14 of their last 16 games, and sit second in the Eastern Conference, just three games back of the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Ujiri said keeping the status quo will bolster the confidence of the players he has.

"I think it showed in the past that we are willing to give our players a chance. And we have

“

It would be tough to mortgage our future.

Masai Ujiri

great chemistry, we won 14 out of 16, why can't it continue to grow?" he said. "That's the way we feel and this should give them confidence. Trade deadlines are usually hectic and everybody's thinking about it, but our history says we'll get better in the summer if we have to and in terms of our players, we will give them the platform to perform, and this should give them all the confidence in the world we hope."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



NHL IN BRIEF

Caps sink Islanders in OT

Justin Williams scored 4:16 into overtime to lift the Washington Capitals to a 3-2 victory over the New York Islanders on Thursday night.

Alex Ovechkin scored twice in a 1:27 span early in the second period and Braden Holtby stopped 20 shots for the Capitals to get his league-leading 36th win of the season.

Washington, which leads the NHL with 88 points, won for the fifth time in six games and improved to 15-3-2 against Metropolitan Division teams.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sens double up Hurricanes

Cody Ceci scored the winning goal early in the third period Thursday night as the Ottawa Senators defeated the Carolina Hurricanes 4-2.

Alex Chiasson, Zack Smith and Mark Stone, with an empty-netter, also scored for the Senators (27-26-6). Craig Anderson stopped 30 shots.

Jordan Staal and Riley Nash scored for the Hurricanes, (26-21-10), who didn't pick up a point for the first time in six games. Eddie Lack made 18 saves.

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Shamrock, Gracie renew 20-year rivalry

MMA

Veterans that helped sport grow set to for another fight

Ken Shamrock is ready to throw in the towel. He concedes he can't beat Royce Gracie.

"I can't run 20 miles," Shamrock said, laughing. "I can't beat him in a long-distance mile. I'd probably go two miles and be done."

Forget 20 miles, Shamrock and Gracie can boast of a long-distance MMA rivalry that has spanned more than 20 years and multiple organizations.

They are MMA cornerstones that lugged the sport out of the days of cock-fighting comparisons and into one of the biggest, baddest mainstream sports around. Shamrock and Gracie had two fights to remember.

The third fight might be the



Royce Gracie and Ken Shamrock, top, fight during UFC 1 in Denver in November 1993. HOLLY STEIN/GETTY IMAGES

one that decides if there's still drawing and punching power left in the once fearsome fighters. Or if this upcoming bout is nothing more than a foolish cash-grab embarrassment for two men well past MMA retirement age.

Gracie returns to the ring for the first time in almost a decade to fight Shamrock at Bellator

149 Friday night in Houston. The records matter less than the ages: Shamrock turned 52 last week and Gracie is 49. They clashed at UFC 1 on Nov. 12, 1993. "Why are people so afraid of me fighting at my age when the reality of the situation is, it's about dollars?" Shamrock said. "It's about doing what I love to do and getting paid



Royce Gracie
GETTY IMAGES

for it."

Few would have predicted in '93 that Shamrock, Gracie and even MMA would have thrived well into the 21st century.

Gracie choked out Shamrock 57 seconds into the first bout at UFC 1. Before main events were short enough to fit into Vines, the second meeting at UFC 5 on April 7, 1995, was a draw in a bout that lasted a whopping 36 minutes, with no round breaks.

Shamrock and Gracie would become the first UFC Hall of Famers. "He's the reason I was able to rise to the level that I rose," Shamrock said. "He was where I had to be in order to be the best in the world."

Gracie said he'll fight at the same 180-pound weight he fought at in UFC 1.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EUROPA LEAGUE

Manchester United rotten in Denmark

Manchester United's disappointing season hit a new low with a 2-1 loss at Danish champion FC Midtjylland in the Europa League last 32 on Thursday, with a pre-match knee injury to goalkeeper David de Gea adding to the fallen English giant's woes in the first leg.

Sevilla boosted its quest for a third straight title in Europe's second-tier competition by beating Molde 3-0, while there were also wins for Borussia Dortmund and Villarreal over Porto and Napoli, respectively.

Fiorentina and Tottenham drew 1-1. Winning the Europa League is regarded as United's best chance of returning to the Champions League next season, but that will be difficult after squandering a lead earned by Memphis Depay. Pione Sisto and



FC Midtjylland's players celebrate Pione Sisto's goal
JENS DRESLING/POLFO VIA AP

substitute Paul Onuachu replied for FC Midtjylland, which was featuring at this stage in Europe for the first time and playing its first competitive game for two months while on a winter break from domestic competition.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Obama fetes Blackhawks

U.S. President Barack Obama celebrated his hometown Chicago Blackhawks for winning another Stanley Cup, calling the team's third title in six years an "amazing championship run."

Chicago defeated Tampa Bay last June. Its previous titles came in 2010 and 2013. Obama took credit for the Blackhawks' performance on Thursday, noting that it had gone nearly a half century without winning the NHL trophy before he took office.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spieth sputters in L.A.

Jordan Spieth was everywhere he wasn't supposed to be at Riviera and wound up with a 79 in the Northern Trust Open.

Spieth called it a day to

forget. It was his worst score since an 80 in the 2014 Tour Championship.

For Camilo Villegas, it was a day to savour. The Colombian ran off four straight birdies late in his round and challenged the course record until a bogey on his final hole for a 63. He led Bubba Watson, Chez Reavie and Luke List by three shots. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Keuchel's raise biggest

AL Cy Young Award winner Dallas Keuchel received the steepest increase among the 156 players in salary arbitration this year, according to a study by The Associated Press.

The salary of the Houston Astros ace rose 1,282 per cent, from \$524,500 to \$7.25 million, after he went 20-8 with a 2.48 ERA in 33 starts.

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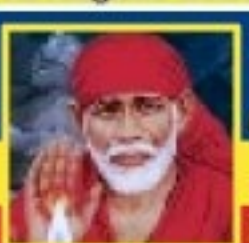
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RECIPE Egg Bakes



PHOTO: MAYA VISNVEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

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Prep time: 10 minutes
Total time: 30 minutes

Makes: 4 egg cups

Ingredients

- 4 slices of wholegrain bread
- 2 Tbsp butter, softened
- 4 eggs
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. Heat the oven to 375 F.

2. Trim the crusts off of your bread. Use a rolling pin to flatten them and butter both sides of each piece. Press each thin slice into a muffin tin.

3. Bake in the oven for 10 minutes, or until the bread is golden brown. Remove from oven and place muffin tin on a cookie sheet — it will make getting your finished eggs out of the oven easier. Now crack an egg into each nest and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

4. Place it back into the oven for about 20 minutes, you want the yolks and whites to set but not get too hard. Remove from the oven and use a butter knife to pry egg bakes out of the muffin tin. Serve with a side salad.

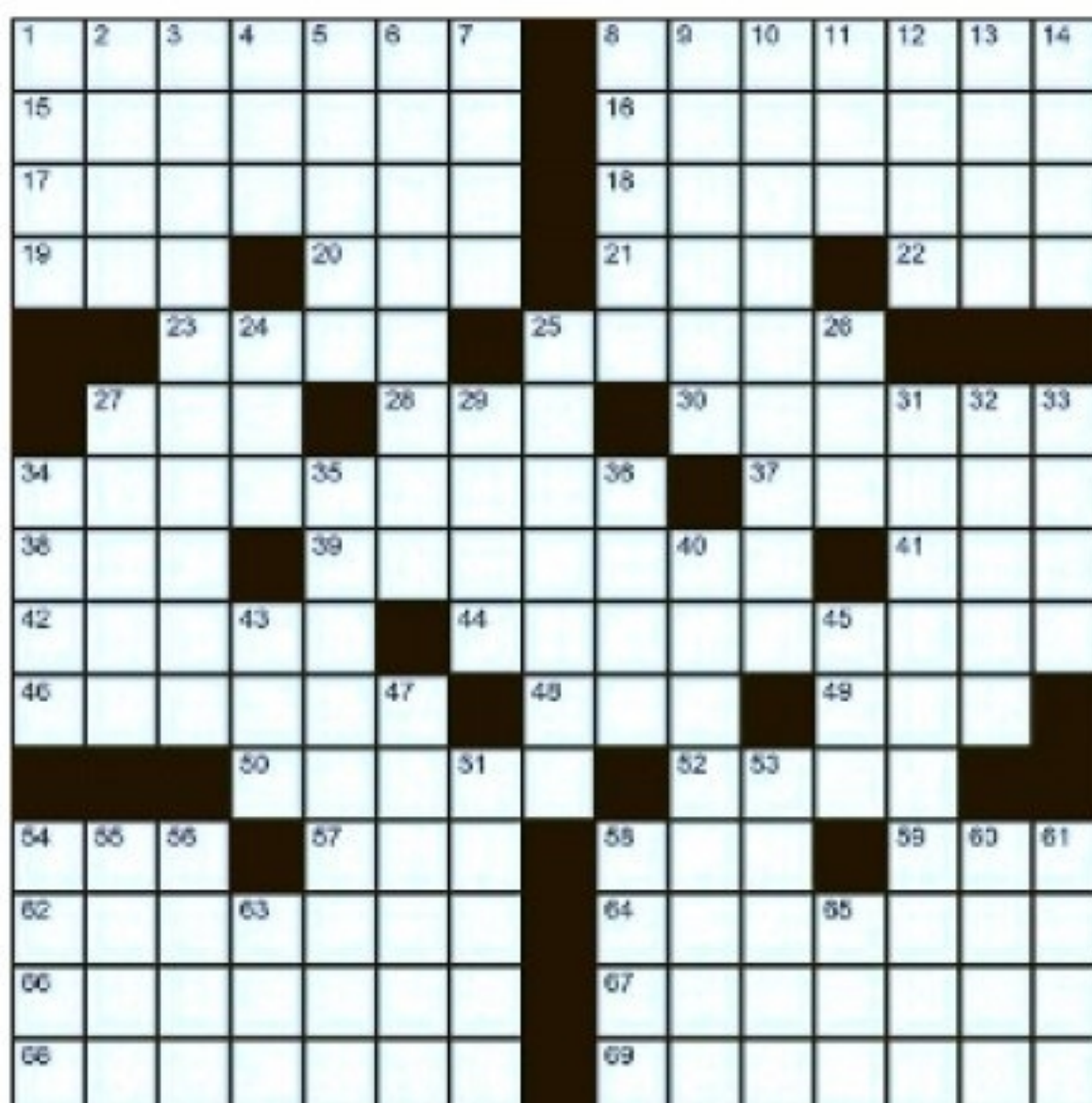
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. 1918 Montreal-to-Toronto: _ JN-4 'Canuck' (Plane used for Canada's first official aerial mail delivery)
8. Purplish red
15. Nose spray brand
16. Resistance to action
17. CRA = Canada _ Agency
18. Cushion decorations
19. Opposite NNW
20. 'Lact' suffix
21. Bitty Brit band
22. Gathered
23. Pro _ (Proportionately)
25. Febreze-using reason
27. Tricky
28. Discontinuity
30. Sharp-tailed _ (Saskatchewan's provincial bird)
34. 'Psst'-ing person
37. Poem comprised of lines from other poems
38. Basketball great, _ Ming
39. Ridiculous
41. Bamboozle
42. Optimist's opposer
44. 'Central' and 'Atlantic' in the National Basketball League of Canada
46. Ottawa-born singer/songwriter, _ Chante
48. Bird beak
49. Theatrical prompt



50. Q. "Kermit, the Muppets character, what is he?" A. " _ _ _ "
52. Radar signal
54. Extinct bird
57. Lithium- _ battery
58. Conrad of Bravo police drama "19-2"
59. Pot cover
62. Indirect/slanting

64. Dinner party guest's gift, perhaps: 2 wds.
66. American roots music band that played with Jefferson Airplane: 2 wds.
67. Seventh or eleventh, for example
68. Ranks the tennis players again
69. Allocates

DOWN

1. 'Burned' computer discs, commonly
2. Scottish musician Midge's
3. Niagara _ _ (National Basketball League of Canada team)
4. Blood-sucking bug's half
5. "Is _ _ over yet?" (That game is still

6. Products by Canadian food brand Schneiders
7. Snick-or- _
8. Referenced
9. _ clock
10. Natural _ Canada
11. " _ . Doubt-fire" (1993)
12. Detail

13. World's longest river
14. The Middle _
24. Group of Seven painter Mr. Jackson, et al.
25. New store's 'grand' event
26. Deer sort
27. "Happy Baby" Canadian music trio
29. Dry
31. Gwyneth and Chris made headlines when they were 'conscious' about it
32. Masonry material
33. Long times
34. Klee _ (Emily Carr book)
35. West coast water _ en francais
36. Cleave
40. Rabbits whilst eating
43. Smashing Pumpkins co-founder James
45. Henri's 'here'
47. More or less
51. Q. "Did U2 release ' _ ' a single in 1992?" A. "Yes."
53. Cheryl and Diane
54. Jay of "Jerry Maguire" (1996)
55. Orchestra instrument
56. Mountain heights [abbr.]
58. Malayan sailing boat
60. _ _ uproar
61. Rocker Mr. Shannon's
63. 'Favour' finisher
65. Nintendo game console

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
The next few weeks won't be easy but try not to make them harder than they have to be. A lot will depend on your attitude, especially your willingness to rise to a challenge rather than be intimidated by it.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
The Sun in Pisces will boost your self-esteem and bring you into contact with people whose ideals mirror your own. But being challenged will inspire you to fight all the harder.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is an important time for career. You'll get opportunities to show what you can do. Seize them. If you let them pass you by they won't come around again for a long time.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
The Sun's change of signs will lead to a broadening of your horizons. Ideas that never meant much to you in the past will capture your imagination.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
It is unlikely you will be satisfied with superficial answers. You want — no you demand — to know what is going on beneath the surface and behind the scenes.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Look for ways to co-operate with others today and over the weekend. Remember, too, that everyone has a good side and a bad side but the good side is always stronger, especially if it is given encouragement. Let people know you like them.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You dislike it when unexpected events disturb your methods and habits but that's too bad because there will be severe disruptions over the next few days. Don't get uptight, in the long-term it will do you good.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The Sun moves into the most dynamic area of your chart today and soon you will be moving so fast you will have trouble catching your breath. If you make an extra effort now you will reap rewards down the road.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It may seem as if the whole world is against you but nothing could be further from the truth. You are simply more touchy than usual. Stay calm.

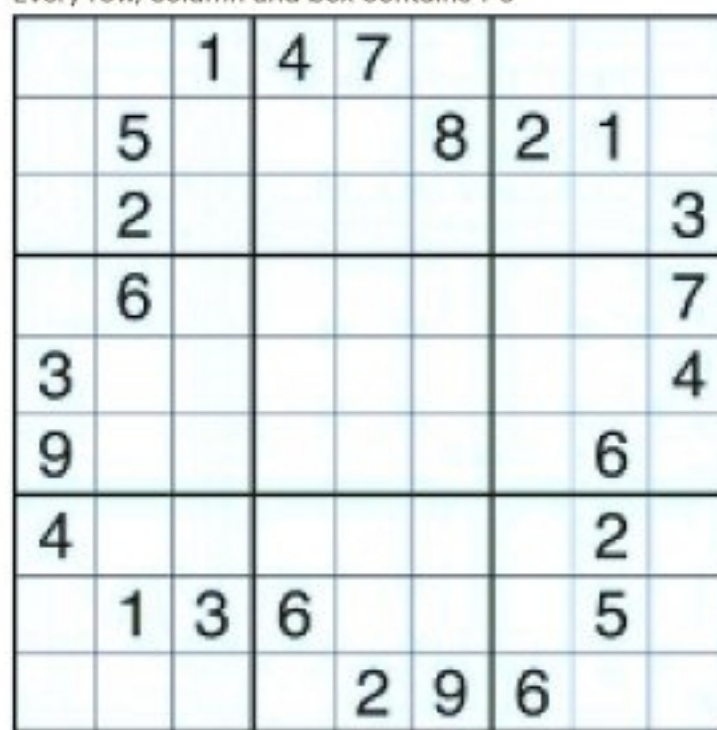
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You will be on the move a lot over the next few weeks but today it will pay you to stay where you are. An extremely busy phase is about to begin and once you start you won't want, or be able, to stop.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The focus of your life is about to change, maybe a little, maybe a lot. One thing that will change is your finances which have been less than healthy. Essentials only from now on!

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
The time has come to show the world what you can do. You won't lack for energy or enthusiasm, so use them to pursue excellence in everything you do. You'll dazzle!

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



GO THE EXTRA MILE

Jesus said, "this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood." (Mark 12: 43 & 44 NKJV). The widow withheld nothing back, just for the love of God. Jesus loves you and wants you to surrender all to Him.

For prayers and counseling call the pastor at 587.579.0454

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